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CONTENTS

NOTICE TO READERS: An * indicates material not disseminated in electronic form.

FRONT PAGE

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

UN Environmental Conference Opens 3 Jun *[Madrid EFE]* 3
Opening Ceremony Described *[Rio de Janeiro TV]* 3
UN Ghali's Opening Speech *[Rio de Janeiro TV]* 3
Brazil's Collor Speaks *[Rio de Janeiro TV]* 6
Secretary Strong Speaks *[Rio de Janeiro TV]* 8
Maurice Strong Backs U.S. Position *[Brasilia Radio]* 13
Japan Reluctant To Sign Convention *[Tokyo KYODO]* 13
Earth Summit Chief Urges Japanese Initiative *[Tokyo KYODO]* 14
Goldemberg Criticizes Biodiversity Treaty *[Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO 2 Jun]* 14
Climate Change Document Modification Sought *[Montevideo Radio]* 15
Israel Offers '10 Commandments' for Environment *[Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ 4 Jun]* 15
Ecuador Regrets U.S. Decision on Treaty *[Quito Radio]* 16
NGO's Inaugurate Global Forum in Rio *[Madrid EFE]* 16

CARIBBEAN

Haiti

Further on Prime Minister-Designate Appointment 17
Bazin Profiled *[Port-au-Prince Radio]* 17
Needs Aristide Approval *[Port-au-Prince Radio]* 17
OAS Rejects Appointment *[Madrid EFE]* 17
Belgian Priest Arrested in Cap-Haitien 2 Jun *[Port-au-Prince Radio]* 18
Deputies To Investigate Camp-Perrin Disturbances *[Port-au-Prince Radio]* 18

CENTRAL AMERICA

Nicaragua

Further on U.S. Congress' Suspension of Aid 19
Assembly Asked To Demand Aid *[EL NUEVO DIARIO 2 Jun]* 19
UNO Issues Statement *[Managua Radio]* 19
PRN Issues Communique *[Managua Radio]* 19
Helms' Veto Viewed *[BARRICADA 2 Jun]* 20
Assembly President Cited *[Managua Radio]* 20

SOUTH AMERICA

Peru

Colombian Envoy on Threats Against Embassy *[Santa Fe de Bogota Radio]* 22
Lima TV Interviews Party Representatives 22

Venezuela

Unknown Persons Infiltrate Student Protests *[Caracas TV]* 28
Minister Urges Halt to Protests *[Caracas TV]* 28
Official Says Situation 'Normal' *[Caracas TV]* 29
Labor Minister on Reinstatement of Workers *[Caracas TV]* 29

UN Conference on Environment and Development

Rio de Janeiro TV carries live the 3 June opening speech by UN General Secretary Butrus Ghali at the UN Conference on Environment and Development. Ghali says the Rio summit is historic because it recognizes "the fragility of the earth," and consequently, "should reflect a radical change in the way man looks at himself." Ghali emphasizes that today's world is "finite." Therefore, in terms of nature, Ghali says, "We no longer have the right to sustain the logic of the infinite." The summit is also historic because its time frame extends "beyond that of our individual lives." Ghali presents two theories of "expansion". First, "sustainable development" is that which "meets the needs of the present as long as resources are renewed." Second, "planetary development" or "the new collective security" has more of an "economic-ecological dimension" than military. Ghali says that military expenditures "must necessarily be reallocated for planetary development projects." In addition, public opinion in the countries of the North "must understand that their effort is indispensable. This is what I call planetary development or new development. It represents a new way and working principle."

Rio de Janeiro TV carries Brazilian President Fernando Collor's speech at the opening session of the UNCED. After greeting the participants and thanking to UN Secretary General Ghali and Mr. Maurice Strong, secretary general of the conference, he says, "The environmental issue is the result of the era of democracy and freedom in which we live. It has developed from social movements that have spontaneously grown everywhere." He points out that "we are here to advance in a cooperative task that must be built based on two basic motives: development and the environment." He uses the expression "sustainable development" which is a key concept that all countries can and must discuss. Collor says, "We must, and can, ask developed countries to show greater proof of their brotherhood." He says that "because of the abusive consumption of nature...it was mandatory for mankind to organize this conference. It will represent the birth of a new international social contract capable of leading us safe and sound beyond the end of this century and this millennium." He says that "the environment requires long-term planning" and "we have the responsibility of implementing what we know in order to guarantee a better future for all humankind." Collor says, "This meeting also will be an opportunity to call for peace. There will not be a healthy environment or equitable development if we are not capable of building a real and lasting peace among nations."

Rio de Janeiro TV carries the speech given by UNCED Secretary General Strong. The most important issues to be addressed, he says, are the industrial world's production and consumption patterns, the explosive population growth rate, increasing disparities between rich and poor, an economic system "which does not take into account ecological cost or ecological damage;" and the opinion that considers "unlimited growth a sign of progress." Mankind, Strong says, is "a species out of control." He calls upon industrialized nations to assume leadership "in order to control their development and substantially reduce their impact on the environment, leaving environmental space for the developing nations to grow." The "economic growth processes," which have resulted in power and wealth for developed nations, "also have led to the risks and imbalances that now are threatening the future." The poor nation's "right to development cannot be denied nor can it be prevented through unilateral conditions imposed on the financial or commercial fluxes of the developed countries." Strong believes the conventions on climate and biodiversity "are the first step in the process of resolving two of the most serious threats to our planet." "Either we work together," he says, "or no part or region of the world will save itself. From now on, we must follow the same path."

Haiti

Referring to the appointment of Marc Bazin as prime minister, Port-au-Prince radio reports that Dr. Alexandre Medard, president of the House of Deputies, has insisted that the "choice of a consensus prime minister must be approved by the president elected on 16 December 1990, Jean-Bertrand Aristide."

EFE reports the OAS has "rejected" Bazin's appointment and considers it a ""continuation of the coup d'etat"" and "reaffirmed" its support of the Washington Protocol as the "only possible solution to the Haitian crisis."

UN Environmental Conference Opens 3 Jun

PY0306135892 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1340 GMT 3 Jun 92

[Text] Rio de Janeiro, 3 Jun (EFE)—The UN Conference on Environment and Development, one of the major events in history, opened today, 3 June, in Rio de Janeiro after a 15-minute delay.

UN Secretary General Butrus Butrus Ghali, Portuguese President Mario Soares, Brazilian President Fernando Collor, Swedish King Carl Gustaf, and Norwegian Prime Minister Gro Harlem Brundtland are participating in the opening ceremony.

In his address, the Brazilian chief of state, who is the president of the conference which is being called the Earth Summit, defended regional development in order to save the planet.

Opening Ceremony Described

PY0306214892 Rio de Janeiro Rede Globo Television in Portuguese 1600 GMT 3 Jun 92

[Excerpts] The definition of the planet's future has begun. Representatives of 180 countries are participating in the UN Conference on Environment and Development, Rio-92, that opened this morning in Rio de Janeiro.

The conference officially was opened at 1000 [1300 GMT]. This is the largest conference ever organized by the United Nations. During the next 11 days, delegations from 180 countries will discuss the forests' destruction, climatic changes, and other threats to the planet. [passage omitted]

The ceremony marking the opening of Rio-92 took place early today. The Brazilian flag was hoisted at the conference center. The flag's green and yellow contrasted with a clean autumn sky and attracted the attention of kings, queens, princes, princesses, and heads of state who met together with more than 10,000 conference delegates. Rio's Convention Center entrance hall became the hub of all UN member countries' comradeship.

UN Secretary General Butrus Butrus Ghali opened the conference, saying the earth is sick because of excess development by some nations and the underdevelopment of other nations. At the end of Ghali's speech the convention elected a conference president: President Fernando Collor.

The Brazilian president said poverty and the lack of opportunities are the real reasons for the environment's deterioration.

[Begin Collor recording] On behalf of all those who are forced to coexist with poverty, we must, and can, ask developed countries to show greater proof of their brotherhood. [end recording]

Conference Secretary General Maurice Strong, a Canadian citizen who has been struggling in favor of this world conference for 20 years, asked all countries to commit themselves. Strong said the conference will be a test of rich countries' goodwill.

In order to save the earth—as asked for in all speeches—there must be a division of labor between rich and poor countries: Rich countries must reduce the emission of gases into the atmosphere to save the climate; poor countries must protect their natural resources. Everyone agrees with this argument. But where will the money come from? And what will each country's commitments and obligations be? This is what delegates will negotiate starting today. [passage omitted]

UN Ghali's Opening Speech

PY0406013492 Rio de Janeiro Educativa Television in Portuguese 1322 GMT 3 Jun 92

[Speech by UN Secretary General Butrus Ghali at the opening session of the UN Conference on Environment and Development, UNCED, at the Riocenter convention hall in Rio de Janeiro—live; in French with superimposed translation into Portuguese]

[Text] His Excellency the President of the Federative Republic of Brazil, His Majesty the King of Sweden, His Excellency the President of the Republic of Portugal, Her Excellency the Prime Minister of Norway, His Excellency the Prime Minister of Tuvalu, Messrs. Delegates, ladies and gentlemen:

From the viewpoint of the matters that we will address during the conference that I now have the honor to open, nothing would be as dangerous as yielding to the power of rhetoric, limiting ourselves to that. Nothing would be as dangerous as believing or giving the impression that the challenges will be met just because things have been said.

Neither should we yield to the emphasis on a formula, just saying that this is a historic moment. We should clearly understand the meaning of this earth summit conference.

Here we have the UN Assembly, represented by its top-level leaders—with the exceptional support of the people—who are determined to reflect and then take joint action in order to protect our planet.

This meeting proves that we have understood the fragility of the earth and the life that it shelters.

This will be a historic conference because it should reflect a radical change in the way man looks at himself.

In the past, man looked at himself as someone surrounded by abundant nature, as someone who was even threatened by nature's greatness. This approach has changed since the beginning of this century. Victory has been the victory over nature since the time of cavemen, who were threatened by wild animals and by the distance

between communities. Wild animals were controlled, and distances were shortened. These two victories allow us to say that all sciences have grown out of the conflict between man and nature.

Men's actions are reflected by the progress they make and by their gradual taming of infinite nature. Consequently, today we live in a finite world, a world in which all of us have to live. This simply means that nature is no longer to be considered in the classic sense of the word; it means that nature—all types of nature—from now on will be in the hands of men.

That also means that man has conquered his environment, which is an extremely dangerous victory. This means that there are no more oases, no more new frontiers, and that each conquest made against nature from now on will, in fact, be against ourselves. However, progress is not necessarily more compatible with life. We no longer have the right to sustain the logic of the infinite. This is the great epistemological break that will perhaps represent a historic symbol for the earth summit, for the Rio de Janeiro summit.

This summit is historic for a second reason: We are really seeking a time frame that will extend beyond that of our individual lives. The reflection and especially the action whose initial political phases we must decide here will not be undertaken by ourselves or contemporary fellow men. What we will decide here will be for our grandchildren and future generations. Our presence here proves that we will try to give more importance to the political timing; that is, history has more importance than our individual stories. This is a new time, accountable in AC [after Christ], in decades, and in centuries. It is thus, the noblest part of our collective effort here in Rio de Janeiro.

The current moment is historic for a third reason as a result of the other two. It has to do with this organization, the United Nations, which is present here together with all those countries that have confidence in its universal quality. In a sense, we are condemned here to move closer, even if only by a step, to the virtuous plane, al-Ma'mura al-Fadila, as proclaimed by the Islamic philosopher al-Farabi.

I am tempted to be optimistic—first, because of the favorable circumstances as a result of the international cooperation we sought some years ago, and then because of all the imagination and enthusiasm our organization generated during the preparation of this meeting, and finally because of the existence of this conference. I am thanking Brazil, our host country, its government, and people who always gave us a warm and enthusiastic welcome.

Ladies and gentlemen, I do not know whether ideas make the world go round. Anyway, nothing will be possible without them. It is necessary to begin with this effort of collective reflection, which is also part of the UN's work, and we must take courage since reflection entails a risk: the risk that one must abandon myths, comfortable ways of thinking, and sacred economic principles. Our reflection has a denominator, the central concept of our conference, which is development. Development is a word with unprecedented glory. This mainly can be observed in the preparation work for this conference. We know that if we are incapable of developing this notion of development we will find ourselves confronted with a paradox that would make us see how much danger and suffering it requires: The earth is suffering from overdevelopment and underdevelopment. Therefore, we must act in the light of science and of our current challenges.

I believe, then, that this expansion will take place in two directions: The first is toward what we already called sustainable development, and the second is toward what I propose to call planetary development. Once again, in my mind these concepts concern the entire world, the North and South, the East and West.

Sustainable development can be defined as development that meets the needs of the present as long as resources are renewed, that is, it must not compromise resources for future generations. This is a new way of looking at development, one that takes its perpetuation into account. Consequently, we must realize that just as countries of the South face problems in safeguarding the environment, the countries of the North must likewise deal with problems of underdevelopment. The countries of the North, like the countries of the South, fail to respect the spirit of sustainable development.

We know, for instance, that the earth's warming is caused by gases that constitute the very underpinnings of industrialized societies. This means that the lifestyle of rich countries is ecologically irrational and that their development cannot, at the present time, be considered sustainable.

We also know that it is in the poor countries that the depletion of resources is most serious, given that those countries are forced to overwork the natural resources on which their survival depends. They are compelled to sacrifice their future to eke out a precarious daily existence in the present.

One point must be clearly stated: One cannot protect a natural resource by denying its use to those who depend on it for survival. The link between environmental protection and poverty not only concerns large-scale production but also daily life, particularly that of women who have to provide water and wood for domestic needs. We must take action against poverty to thus contribute to protecting the environment.

We must stop, then—and I have given instructions to do so—making a distinction between two aspects of the same issue: economy on the one hand, and ecology on the other. Any ecological disaster is always an economic disaster. The two words have a common Greek root: oiko, which means home.

Mr. Gorbachev has proposed that Europe should become a common home. But the entire universe is our common home. Ecology comes from the Greek oikos-logos, that is, the science of the home. Economy comes from the Greek oikonomia, that is, good management of the home. They mean almost the same thing. Ecology is, by its very nature, part of the economy.

This principle has, then, micro- and macroeconomic consequences. It has great consequences in the manner of establishing prices since environmental degradation entails a loss of social capital, as well as social costs that must be taken into consideration in the same way that an investment is amortized.

Because nature is now entirely in humanity's hands, it is quite normal to consider it no longer as given data but as an acquisition, as an investment that must be continuously overseen and amortized just like other costs, salaries, financial expenditures, and raw materials.

By including nature's costs, we still can protect resources for a long time; we can enhance the quality and durability of goods. We can recycle waste and, ultimately, we can save, produce and consume, but recycle too. This is the triptych for the future.

Therefore, I want to insist on this second theoretical advance that follows from the first one, which we call the new collective security or planetary development.

Mankind has always had to face threats to its security, but security evolves. And I must say, then, that it is becoming less and less a military matter—since in a world in the process of unification any war becomes a kind of civil war—and rather acquires an economic-ecological dimension.

Let us carefully see what this means. It means that a portion of the so-called security expenditures, in the old sense of the word, that is, military expenditures, must necessarily be reallocated for planetary development projects.

Therefore, I am aware that at least some of these results may clash with certain vested—and powerful—interests. Let me say, then, that these interests, like the others, must be concerned about the long-term future and take into account its own force or the force of the feeling of equality that moves all the peoples on the earth, as well as the force of necessity.

It is true that by taking on greater responsibility we will become wealthier and, concerning both financing and technology, the countries of the North and, especially, public opinion in those countries—and, at this moment, I am addressing that public opinion—must understand that their effort is indispensable. This is what I call planetary development or new development. This represents a new way and working principle.

In fact, we must consider the way in which human beings look at things, at plants, at animals, from the simple cup of water disposed after a casual sip to the species that are dwindling dramatically in number. All these, the world's riches, are not something we own. As Saint Exupery said, we have borrowed them from our children.

Illustrious delegates, I am saying that this is a historic moment. Meanwhile, it will indeed be a historic moment if our efforts for the planet persist. This only will happen if the Rio de Janeiro conference, which will conclude long discussions, also marks a new beginning—and by this I mean a new starting point for the entire UN system, for action by its member states, and for the mobilization of all the peoples of the world.

The preparatory work undertaken by the Secretariat has involved the entire UN system in an interagency endeavor. The same approach should inspire the follow-up to this conference. The UN's role in the implementation of this conference's results was reviewed in a recent meeting of the Administrative Commission for Coordination. It was the first commission meeting under my presidency. This body is made up of the executive chiefs of the specialized UN agencies, under the secretary general's leadership.

The commission is very well aware of the major responsibilities it has in this regard. Individual UN agencies regard the follow-up to this conference as a major challenge and as a major new chance for making progress in their respective areas. Such areas might be the promotion of health, food, agriculture, the advancement of science and education, personnel training, the creation of infrastructure, or the provision of financial resources for development.

Equally important is the fact that all the organizations of the UN system regard the follow-up to this conference as an important new opportunity for effective collective action.

From this viewpoint, the outcome of this conference—particularly the results of Agenda 21—will give us a common reference point. This reference point may guarantee that the action by the various UN agencies—and the available capacity for research and analysis of policies in the areas of finance, development, and technical assistance—may supplement and strengthen each other, thus promoting sustained and sustainable development.

Progress toward those objectives will put the UN's entire potential to work in order to meet the needs and challenges of the future. That will be one of my major concerns during this term.

At the same time, I cannot emphasize too strongly that states will be the main instruments for implementation of the decisions, policies, and guidelines that will be adopted at this conference. In addition, the protection of the planet should necessarily entail a universal effort involving all earth's inhabitants.

In this regard, it is particularly encouraging to know that the preparatory work done for this conference was marked by an effort of close cooperation between countries at various

development levels, between governments, between the scientific and academic communities, and between nongovernmental groups. These contacts should be continued and should be strengthened.

In the area of sustainable development—more than in any other area—our action will face uncertainty. This is caused by the fact that we have not comprehensively understood the way ecosystems operate, sometimes because we have to work over very long periods, sometimes because cause and effect are separated by physical distance.

Consequently, it is important to guarantee that the opinions and thoughts of scientists and specialists will be properly considered by [passage indistinct] follow-up to this conference.

Within this framework, I would like to pay special tribute to the nongovernmental community. More than 1,000 nongovernmental organizations have been accredited to the conference and have contributed a great deal to the preparatory work. They worked hard and they expect a lot from your deliberations. Those organizations also will play a major role in the conference's follow-up. Those organizations represent the peoples of the world, whose voice is clearly heard in the preamble of the UN Charter.

They represent men and women. I want to note here that there is an Article 20 of the draft declaration that correctly focuses on women—managers and workers, writers and actresses, individuals from all areas and all careers.

I see this conference as a planet-wide endeavor during the preparatory process: Actors of all kinds and from all areas, national and local officials, producers and consumers, community groups, and many others were involved in forging the consensus that this conference now must consolidate. It is only through the action of all of us living on this planet that we will succeed in achieving our goals.

Our Rio conference already has aroused unprecedented interest throughout the world. It has captured the imagination of all people everywhere.

I hope that what I call the spirit of Rio will be the spirit of planet Earth, and that this spirit of Rio will be spread throughout the world. It must embody the full awareness of the fragility of our planet. The spirit of Rio must lead us to continuously think of the future, of our children's future.

It is for this reason that, on opening this conference, I am very moved when I wish you success in your work. Let me end with these few simple words: Never will so much depend on what you do or do not do here, for yourselves, for your children and grandchildren, for the planet, and for life in all its interdependent forms.

Brazil's Collor Speaks

PY0306220292 Rio de Janeiro Educativa Television in Portuguese 1349 GMT 3 Jun 92

[Speech by Brazilian President Fernando Collor de Mello at opening session of the UN Conference on Environment and Development, UNCED, at the Riocenter convention hall in Rio de Janeiro— live]

[Text] Mr. Secretary General, His Majesties, Mr. President of the Portuguese Republic, Mrs. Prime Minister of the Norwegian Kingdom, Mr. Prime Minister of Tuvalu, Mr. Vice President of the Brazilian Federative Republic, Mr. Secretary General of the UN Conference, Mr. President of the Brazilian Federal Senate, Mr. President of the Chamber of Deputies, Mr. President of the Supreme Federal Tribunal, Mr. Governor of the State of Rio de Janeiro, Messrs. Governors, Messrs. Ministers of State and Secretaries of Government, Mr. Mayor of the City of Rio de Janeiro, chiefs of delegations, Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen.

On behalf of the Brazilian people, I welcome you to our country. We warmly welcome each and everyone of those who have come to attend the UN Conference on Environment and Development.

With a strong feeling of responsibility, I am deeply honored to preside over the work of a conference that I am sure will be a landmark in the history of humankind.

I convey special thanks to UN Secretary General Butrus Ghali and Mr. Maurice Strong, the secretary general of this conference, for their tireless efforts for the implementation of this remarkable event.

Ladies and gentlemen; I belong to a generation that warned against a model of growth that was blindly heading toward the elimination of life on earth.

When I took over, I promised to attach priority and urgent attention to this matter in response to an ever-growing feeling among Brazilians and the rest of the world.

Today, at the solemn opening of this conference, I feel the emotion of someone who has fulfilled a promise made to his contemporary fellow beings, to his fellow countrymen, and to the international community.

On 14 June, when we return to our homes, the world will no longer be as it was this morning, 3 June 1992. We will be more strongly aware of our duties, our willingness to work will be more mature, and the paths of cooperation will be clearer and more consolidated.

The path that led us to the Rio de Janeiro conference was marked by many uncertainties. In the final analysis, we will negotiate over something unprecedented. We were imagining the creation of new international institutions, new patterns of relations between states.

With incomplete information and inappropriate tools, we were trying to list the correct and incorrect actions of

the past, identify the problems of the present, and visualize the future's challenges.

Yet we came to Rio de Janeiro driven by the will of the peoples we Represent. The environmental issue is the result of the era of democracy and freedom in which we live. It has developed from social movements that have spontaneously grown everywhere.

We cannot leave unanswered the hopes of our brethren, who now are expecting decisions capable of changing reality for the better.

Our conference's first basic achievement is that it is being held—the simple fact that today, in this hall, representatives from 180 countries, from all the large international organizations, and from many nongovernmental organizations are able to begin working on a group of texts that already has been negotiated or is very close to being completed.

We have in our hands the task of enhancing and expanding the consensus achieved during the negotiation process, as indicated by the conference's name itself.

We are here to advance in a cooperative task that must be built based on two basic motives: development and environment.

We are meeting a historic challenge and discharging an ethical duty by forging a new model in which progress will necessarily become a synonym for well-being for everyone and the conservation of nature.

As I already have said, we cannot have an environmentally healthy planet in a socially unjust world. These are goals that are achieved in every community, every country, and the entire world. And I can give you the example of Brazil, which has much development to achieve and much nature to conserve.

In sum, we want to harmoniously achieve the hopes combined in the expression sustainable development, a key concept that rich and poor countries, big ones and small ones, can and must discuss so that all of us are able to prosper and reduce the distances that still are separating us.

We will find new ways. We will enter a new era in which societies will stop consuming nature and will lEarn to enjoy nature. Instead of the current GDP's [gross domestic products] and GNP's [gross national products], we will have something like a PNBE, a well-being national product [produto nacional do bem-estar], that is, we will add the quantitative national wealth indexes to other indexes, translating an effective degree of nations' achievements, including liberty and social harmony, cultural diversity, racial integration, and respect for the environment.

Ladies and gentlemen, after two years of work, in addition to adopting a stance of dialogue, cooperation, and even leadership in the international discussion of environmental issues, my administration is making extremely important decisions domestically. As an example, I would mention those decisions that caused a substantial reduction of deforestation in the Amazon area, as shown by satellite images, and the demarcation of extensive areas occupied by our Indian communities, including more than 94,000 square kms for our Ianomami people.

As additional proof of the Brazilian effort in championing the environmental cause, we offered our country as headquarters of the international institution that will meet the goals on which we will decide to pursue here.

By stressing the things that bring us closer and that we will share, however, I do not want to give the impression that this is just a conference to celebrate an understanding.

Unfortunately, there are still serious and persistent problems that must be overcome so that international action will heed the voice of reason and follow the straight path of solidarity and common interest.

Here, everyone will clearly perceive that poverty and the lack of opportunities represent the cruelest enemy and the most persistent opponent.

As president of this huge country, every day I experience the joys of its promises and the dilemmas of its national and international circumstances, which quite often are adverse.

I cannot yield, however, to temptations to warn those who have more, and much less to the temptation of reorganizing a language of confrontation that history has fortunately left behind.

There are Cubas to be distributed among all of us, but it is not worthy. We must, however, cling to hope that remote and recent lessons of the past were not in vain and will not be forgotten.

I also must say on behalf of all those who still are forced to coexist with poverty, that we must, and can, ask developed countries to show greater proof of their brotherhood.

Without a more just world order there will be no calm prosperity for anyone, because no stability will be achieved for a long-lasting enjoyment of the wealth produced by man.

For all those who are aware that they belong to a broader human community, the struggle to reduce inequalities must be a continuous cause.

Ladies and gentlemen; despite the great achievements during the preparatory work, the next 12 days will still call for further tasks and final adjustments that surely will consume all our time. The path on which we have walked since Stockholm in 1972 is encouraging and will further motivate our efforts in this conference. At that meeting, ideas and words, which today are integrated in our daily work, have emerged as an irreversible force of truths, and the time has come for those words and ideas.

The report issued by the commission headed by Prime Minister Gro Harlem Brundtland has strengthened the essential concept of sustainable development.

Starting from Rio de Janeiro, the step we are going to take toward the future will be even longer than 20 years ago. Liberated from the chains of the Cold War, which for decades tied up international negotiations, we are going to globally deal with global issues.

Our concerns over the environment and the atmosphere, our concerns over biodiversity, lead us to the very essence of life. These broad and different issues we are going to face with a clear guideline: respect for and valorization of the human being. I am certain that future generations will see a moment of wisdom and foresight in this meeting.

Because of the abusive consumption of nature and its renewable or nonrenewable resources; because of the generalized pollution; because of the damage caused by world or regional wars, by the arsenals of chemical and nuclear weapons, by the exhaustion of predatory development models, it was mandatory for mankind to organize this conference.

It will represent the birth of a new international social contract capable of leading us safe and sound beyond the end of this century and this millennium.

Agenda 21 reflects this conclave's ambitions in its name and objectives. More than any other issue, the environment requires long-term planning. Any small negligence today can represent irreparable damage in the future. We have the responsibility of implementing what we know in order to guarantee a better future for all humankind.

The Rio Conference will be the turning point of a new era in which science and technology will stop technifying and start humanizing life, thus consolidating what already has been done for our benefit, restoring all the damage caused to nature, and reducing the gap between the rich and the poor.

This meeting also will be an opportunity to call for peace. There will not be a healthy environment or equitable development if we are not capable of building a real and lasting peace among nations. This must be a peace of satisfaction and fullness, not a peace characterized only by the absence of conflicts, because that peace is always weak.

We have to bring forth the principle of solidarity for the community of states. I will receive my colleagues, heads of states and governments, during the summit meetings on 12, 13, and 14 June, with the certainty that we will have ready for you the important documents we were entrusted to draw up, with the certainty that the conference will have the excellence and range that the cause for survival requires.

The statue of Christ the Redeemer is hovering above our conference center and can be seen far off on the horizon. In the name of every Brazilian, I would like to welcome you to Rio de Janeiro, where after 500 years the Americas no longer need to be rediscovered. What needs to be discovered and revealed is what men can do when the cause is just, when the urgency is great, and when they are moved by hope. This new world will be the birthplace of the new world we all want. May God bless and protect us. Thank you very much.

Secretary Strong Speaks

PY0406023492 Rio de Janeiro Educativa Television in Portuguese 1406 GMT 3 Jun 92

[Speech by Maurice Strong, secretary general of the UN Conference on Environment and Development, at the Riocenter convention hall in Rio de Janeiro—live, in English with simultaneous translation into Portuguese]

[Text] Mr. President, Mr. Secretary General, [applause] thank you all for your warm applause, a sign of your confidence that I share with everyone, especially with my colleague the UN secretary general. I am very grateful to all of you.

Your Majesty, the illustrious president of Portugal, the prime minister of Norway, the prime minister of Tuvalu, illustrious delegates, illustrious Brazilian leaders present here, and everyone in whose name we are here today:

In the first place I would like to warmly congratulate you, Mr. President, as conference chairman. I and my team feel very honored to be serving under your leadership. I also would like to convey our profound gratitude to your government and to your people for the wonderful work they have undertaken to prepare this unprecedented major intergovernmental conference, as well as for the warm and generous welcome accorded to us. We also would like to extend our gratitude to [Rio de Janeiro] Governor Leonel Brizola and Mayor Alencar, who wholeheartedly gave their support to Your Excellency.

Today, Mr. President and Mr. Secretary General, Rio de Janeiro is the capital of our planet. There could not be a better place for this major conference. Brazil is a great country that takes pride in being part of the developing world, but which is a universe by itself. It is a country that is rich in natural resources, in its diversity, and in the creativeness and strength of its people. Brazil is also one of the leading industrial countries in the world, a country with large urban centers as well as some of the largest border areas in the world. The Eco-Brazil exposition in Sao Paulo and the Eco-Tech 92 here in Rio Janeiro also have demonstrated the impressive quality and comprehensiveness of Brazilian technological and scientific ability.

The political and socioeconomic challenges Brazil is facing today with its traditional vigor and dynamism consist of all those topics that will be up for discussion, and the initiatives Brazil has taken under your leadership, Mr. President, are related to some of the leading environmental issues and are examples for the international community.

Today, the Brazilian people may feel proud of their country and their president. I want to congratulate you, Mr. President, and Secretary General Butrus Ghali, under whom I am proudly serving, for your remarks that brought into the open the awesome challenges this conference will have to address.

In reality, this conference will have to define the status of political decision needed to save our planet, to make it—quoting the Earth Charter [Compromiso com a Terra]—a safe and hospitable place for present and future generations.

Mr. President, this conference will not focus on a single topic, but it will address the general causes and effects through which a wide variety of human activities (?can be carried out) to secure our future.

Twenty years ago, representatives of 113 nations met in Stockholm and took the first steps toward a great journey of hope into the future of our earth. Represented here today, in this marvelous city of Rio de Janeiro, are more than 178 nations. This unprecedented parliament of our planet will adopt the necessary decisions to boost that hope again by giving it new content and strength. Thus, we ought to say that despite the significant progress made since 1972 in many areas, the hopes lit in Stockholm remain largely unfulfilled.

As the World Commission for Environment and Development [Commissao Mundial sobre o Meio Ambiente e Desenvolvimento] has made very clear, I am very pleased to say that the president of this commission, Prime Minister Gro Brundtland of Norway, will be here and will talk to us. The commission's report on our common future clearly documented that the environment, the natural resources, and the systems supporting life on our planet continue to deteriorate.

Global risks, such as those involving climatic changes and the destruction of the ozone layer, have become more and more pressing and acute.

Meanwhile, every environmental deterioration, the risks that we are experiencing so far at the population and human activities levels—which actually are much smaller than they will be in the future—and the underlying conditions that led to that dilemma remain as the dominant driving forces that continue changing our future and threatening our survival.

Among the most important issues to be discussed here we have the industrial world's production and consumption patterns, which are undermining the systems supporting life on earth; the explosive population growth rate, especially in the developing world, which adds 250,000 people to the world's population every day; the increasing disparities between the rich and the poor nations, which leaves 75 percent of mankind struggling for survival; the economic system, which does not take into account the ecological cost or ecological damage; and a viewpoint considering unlimited growth a sign of progress.

Mr. President, we are not the most successful species in history, but now we are a species out of control. Our very success is leading us to a dangerous future, a fact that has made us meet at this moment.

The population growth rate in the developing countries and the economic growth rate in the industrialized countries have increased, leading to imbalances that cannot be sustained in either economic or environmental terms.

Since 1972, the world's population has increased by 1.7 billion people, the equivalent of nearly the world's entire population at the turn of this century; 1.5 billion of these people are living in developing countries that cannot support them.

Everyone's life is precious and the planet must continue supporting everyone's life, but in a general manner, this growth rate cannot continue. The population must be stabilized and this is something urgent because if we do not do this, nature will take care of this in a much more brutal manner.

During this 20-year [1972-92] period, the world's GDP [gross domestic product] increased $20 million. Meanwhile, barely 15 percent of this increase occurred in the developing countries; more than 70 percent occurred in the already rich countries, leading to increasing pressures by these countries on the environment, the resources, and the systems supporting life on our planet. This was part of the entire population problem: the fact that every baby born in the developed world consumes 20 to 30 times more of our planet's resources than a baby born in the Third World.

The same economic growth processes that led the rich minority to unprecedented power and wealth levels also have led to the risks and imbalances that now are threatening the future of the rich and the poor nations.

This growth model and the production and consumption patterns that accompanied it—let us be clear about this—will simply not be sustainable for the rich nor can it be copied by the poor. To continue this way, on this path, could lead to the end of our civilization.

Meanwhile, the poor countries demand socioeconomic development because this is the only way to alleviate the vicious poverty circle they are in. Their right to development cannot be denied nor can it be prevented through unilateral conditions imposed on the financial or commercial fluxes of the developed countries.

The rich countries must assume the leadership in order to control their development and substantially reduce their impact on the environment, leaving environmental space for the developing nations to grow.

The rich countries' destructive and wasteful way of living cannot be maintained at the expense of the poor nations' lives and nature.

For the rich, sustainable development does not require a regression to a difficult or primitive way of life and it could lead to a richer way of life with more opportunities for self-realization; and it will be a life with more satisfactions, more secure because it is sustainable, and it will be more sustainable because its opportunities and benefits will be shared in a more universal manner.

Sustainable development, the development that neither destroys nor undermines the ecological, economic, or social basis on which continuous development depends, will be the only feasible way toward a better future and a future of greater hopes for the rich and the poor.

This way is still an option, although the options are fewer and fewer every day. This conference must establish the basis to achieve the transition to a sustainable development. This can take place through essential changes in our economic life and international economic relations, particularly among industrialized and developed countries. The environment must be integrated in every aspect of our economic life and decision-making processes, which have to do with the culture and values of economic behavior.

Some of the most precious resources of the world's ecosystem are running a serious risk. The coastal waters, the tundras, the rivers, and other systems of fresh water will be protected and developed in a sustained manner only if they receive an overall value, and if the people who depend on them for survival receive the incentives to protect them.

In our negotiations, Mr. President, nature must have a place at the negotiating table because nature always must have the final word, and our decisions must respect the conditions imposed on all of us and the broad set of resources and opportunities that are available.

As (Ranfel) said in his book, "Our Book, The Planet": In our quest for material improvement we become indifferent to our roots in nature, and thus we run the risk of pulling those roots out of the earth. We must face the tragic implications of the warnings the scientists are making because they show the true perspective that this planet soon may become uninhabitable for mankind. If we react only with rhetoric and with pleasant gestures and symbols, this perspective surely will become a reality.

The preparations for this conference, Mr. President, focused on the very concrete actions necessary to achieve the transition to sustainable development. First, based on Resolution No. 448 and under the leadership of Ambassador Tommy Koh, the preparatory committee of this conference, in more than two years of intense preparations and negotiations, shaped up the proposals that have been submitted for the consideration of Your Excellency.

Thus, these proposals have received the benefit of a broad set of contributions from the entire UN system and preparatory conferences held in all regions of the world: many sectorial conferences, national reports, and the participation in various forms of an unprecedented number of institutions, experts, and organizations, both governmental and nongovernmental.

I also would like to join the secretary general in paying homage to all those who were dedicated to this process. The results of this preparatory work are here in front of Your Excellency. Most of the proposals are recommendations by consensus of the preparatory committee, although some issues of critical importance must be resolved here. I would like to mention some of the most important issues:

Mr. President: The 27 principles of the Rio Declaration, which is based on the Stockholm Declaration, represent a great step toward the establishment of the basic principles that must rule the behavior of nations and the peoples among themselves and in relation to the earth, in order to guarantee a secure and sustainable future. I suggest that these principles be approved in their current form, and that they serve as a basis for future negotiations for an earth charter that could be approved on the occasion of the UN's 50th anniversary.

Mr. President, delegates, Agenda 21 is the result of a broad process of preparation establishing, for the first time, a structure for the systematic and cooperative action necessary to attain the transition to sustainable development.

As for the unresolved matters, I request that you make sure that the agreements signed at this historic summit take us far beyond, to the positions agreed upon by the governments in other forums. The issue of additional financial resources that will allow the developing countries to implement Agenda 21 is of crucial importance. This subject, more than any other, will clearly test the degree of political will and commitment of all the countries regarding the essential purposes and objectives of this earth summit. The need to begin this process is so urgent that the governments, mainly of those countries with the highest income level, must be, I hope, ready to make the initial commitment become true.

It is clear that the North must invest much more in the development of the underdeveloped world. The developing countries must leave this summit with confidence that they will receive the necessary support and incentives so that they themselves may commit themselves to the necessary reorientation of their policies and the restructuring of their own resources as demanded by Agenda 21 because, after all, the developing countries are responsible for their development, and any aid they may obtain from external sources will be welcome. But they themselves must provide their own resources. I also hope that you will agree that the new additional funds that must be provided by the international community must be channeled, at least initially, through several existing institutions and programs, including a renewed world environmental fund.

Mr. President, all this demands a new sense of real partnership. The traditional notions of external aid and the syndrome of donating-and-receiving country no longer constitute an appropriate base for North-South relations. The international community must aim at a more objective and coherent system of transference of resources similar to that used in dealing with imbalances and inequities within national societies.

The financing of this transition to sustainable development must be considered not only in terms of costs and an additional onus, but as an essential investment in global environmental safety. These investments also make very good economic sense. It is not by chance that the countries and companies that use energy and materials more efficiently are also those countries with the most economic success. The contrary is also true because a bad economic performance always accompanies, without fail, a weak environmental performance. The importance of eco-efficiency was really the main subject of the historic report, Changing Course [preceding two words in English], prepared by the Business Council for Sustainable Development as a contribution to this conference.

Mr. President, nowhere else than in the use of energy is efficiency more important. The transition to a more efficient economy in terms of energy, freeing us from excessive dependency on fossil fuels, is imperative to obtain sustainable development. The removal of trade barriers will allow developing countries to earn much more than they currently earn through official assistance for development. A large-scale reduction of the current foreign debt burden may provide the necessary new additional resources to attain this transition to sustainable development.

We also need new development objectives and environmental financing. For example, emissions licenses that may be internationally negotiated are a way of making efficient economic use of the funds meant for pollution control.

Perhaps this will not be defined here, but I ask this conference that these matters be included as a priority in the postconference agenda.

Mr. President, Mr. Secretary General, illustrious delegates: The terrible drought in southern Africa and the continued suffering of the victims of conflicts and poverty in so many African countries remind the international community that it should attach special priority to African needs and to underdeveloped countries.

The tragedy is that poverty and starvation persist in a world that is, however, capable of (?eradicating) them. This certainly contradicts the ethical and moral foundations of civilization and poses a threat to its survival.

The Agenda 21 measures for the eradication of poverty and for promoting economic development for the have-nots outline the foundations for a new world war against poverty.

I ask you to take advantage of this opportunity, and to choose the eradication of poverty as the world's main objective as we approach the 21st century.

Mr. President: Another region that now calls for special attention is the area of the former USSR nations and central and East European nations. Those countries, which suffered the world's most serious environmental devastation, now should revitalize and rebuild their economies.

It is important, from the viewpoint of life, to give to this community of countries the necessary international support so that they may achieve those objectives with sustainable foundations and in an environmentally healthy fashion.

I would like to pay tribute to those who negotiated the conventions on climate and biodiversity, which will be opened for signing.

As you know, it was not an easy process, and some people have some reservations regarding those documents. Those two conventions, however, are the first step in the process of resolving two of the most serious threats to our planet.

But signing those two conventions will not be enough. Their actual significance will depend on whether they actually produce concrete action. It also will depend on whether they are rapidly followed by protocols providing for special measures to make such conventions efficient, and providing for the necessary financial instruments for their implementation. The future of life relies on the subjects covered by those two conventions.

In fact, during the next 20 years, more than 25 percent of the species on earth may disappear. In the case of global warming, the intergovernmental panel on climatic changes has said that if carbon dioxide emissions are not immediately reduced 60 percent, the changes in the next 60 years may be so fast that nature will be unable to adapt itself, and man will be unable to control himself.

Mr. President: I also would like to recommend, Your Excellency, that negotiations include a convention on desert land and the deterioration of arid land; and that the negotiations on the foundations of forests—which were formulated by the preparatory committee—ensure increasing progress toward an efficient system for preservation and sustained development of the world's forests.

Mr. President: Today there are many reminders that war and preparations for war are a major source of environmental deterioration, for which reasoned control measures are necessary. Such measures should provide for instruments that should be much stricter from a legal viewpoint, and that should be enforced in order to neutralize aggression against the environment.

Mr. President: The path toward the Rio de Janeiro conference was marked by a wide range of activities and dialogue, some of them very helpful, others critical, and others skeptical, but all of them noted the historical

significance of this event, and the hopes and expectations that people everywhere have over what will happen here in the next two weeks.

Many people and organizations participating in this process will join us, while others will join the summit of nations in the global forum.

I hope there will be positive and creative interrelations between this conference and the forums of the other nations.

Mr. President: Several other important events took place here before this conference.

There was the world conference of Indian people, who met to share their own particular experience and concerns. We must hear their voices and learn from their experience. We must respect their right to living on their own land, in accordance with their own traditions, their own values, and their own cultures.

In fact, the integral and informal participation of those people in democratic processes at all levels, in open and transparent processes, are essential factors for the achievement of this conference's goals.

This participation must be guaranteed by governments and the national and international institutions as a response to this conference.

Nothing is more important in all countries than women, the youth, and the children. The children who so nicely welcomed us when we entered here this morning represent all those children whose world we are changing today. These children remind us in a very strong manner of the responsibilities we have toward them.

To make these contributions essential we must reduce and eliminate all barriers to the equitable participation of women in all aspects of our economic, social, and political life. The opinions, concerns, and interests of the youth and children also must be preserved and respected. They must have opportunities to participate in the decisions that will shape the future, which to a great extent is theirs, the children and youth.

Mr. President, in the beginning of the 21st century more than half of the world population will be living in urban areas. Rio de Janeiro Mayor Marcello Alencar played an important role at the meetings of representatives and leaders of local governments held in Curitiba and Rio de Janeiro in the last two weeks. They were two separate but very interconnected meetings, and they focused very well on these issues and established the basis for the adoption of Agenda 21 by entrepreneurial, local, and municipal leaders from throughout the world.

Another meeting also was held here last week on the sacred earth, and it reminded us that all our principles must be based on our deepest spiritual, moral, and ethical values. We must restore to our individual lives and society the ethics of love and respect for the earth, which the traditional peoples maintained as central and crucial points in their value systems. This must be accompanied by a revitalization of all our religious and philosophical traditions.

The love for solidarity must not be taken only as religious ideals divorced from reality, but must have an essential basis in new realities toward which we must be directed if we want to survive and have a sense of well-being.

Mr. President, science and technology have produced our civilization based on knowledge, but science alone cannot guide society and provide all the guidelines for survival. We cannot expect more. We cannot expect autopsy-like conclusions. We must act based on cautious principles, taking into account the best things science can give us.

Mr. President, to become integral partners in the effort to save the earth the developing countries need financial support to strengthen their scientific, technological, professional, and educational areas, and other institutional areas.

This is an important and urgent aspect of Agenda 21. Mr. President, it has been a great pleasure to hear in your own words your urging the international community to continue the work of this conference through the establishment of an international network, institution, or organization here in Rio de Janeiro. I congratulate you for this proposal and I give you our full support. I think that the most important thing, in terms of consensus, here in Rio de Janeiro will be the understanding that we are all together. No country of the world may remain as a secure island against the rest. Either we work together or no part or region of the world will save itself. From now on, we must follow the same path. No country may establish its climatic conditions alone. No country may unilaterally preserve its biodiversity. No region of the world may live with predatory consumption while the rest of the world destroys the environment simply to survive. No one is immune to the effects of what is done in other regions of the world. I must say that there currently is a negative trend in the sense of imposing new iron curtains, this time in the West and North, to isolate the richest from the poorest, the miserable. These iron curtains close national borders, and these curtains are not a solution to the problems of an interdependent world community where what happens in one region affects everyone. Whether we like it or not, from now on we are all together in this: the rich, the poor, the North, South, East, and West.

It is a really thrilling challenge now to have the task of eliminating the obstacles that separated us in the past, of uniting ourselves in a new global partnership, of stimulating what will allow us to survive in a safer and more friendly world. The industrialized world cannot ignore its essential responsibility of leading the establishment of this new partnership, of making it work successfully.

So far, the damage caused to our planet was basically caused unintentionally. However, we now know what we

are doing; we know what the effects are. We have lost our innocence. Thus, it would be more than irresponsible to continue on this path. In the final analysis, this conference will fulfill the objectives for which it was called and fulfill the hopes it aroused throughout the world only if the decisions made here genuinely lead to real and essential changes in the subjacent conditions that produced the civilization crisis we now face.

If the agreements reached here do not fulfill the common interests of all of humanity, of the whole human family; if they do not provide for the necessary means and commitments to implement them; if the world returns to its everyday routine after this conference we will have lost a historic opportunity, an opportunity that might not happen again in our lives. In this case, we may leave to those who come after us a legacy of lost hopes, miseries, and desperation, and this we cannot do.

The earth summit is not an end in itself; it is a new beginning. The measures we will agree on here will be only the first steps taken on a new path toward a common future that will be more promising and hopeful. Therefore, the results of this conference will depend on the credibility and efficiency of what may happen in this conference.

As the UN secretary general said, the United Nations also will have to lay down the guidelines for and serve as the leader of the movement that will ensue from this conference.

Mr. President, Your Excellency, illustrious delegates:

Our basic, essential unity as people living on the earth must transcend the difficulties and differences that continue to separate us.

It is up to you, gentlemen, to assume your historic responsibility as guardians of the planet by making decisions here that will be instrumental in uniting the rich and the poor, the North and the South, the East and the West, in a new global partnership designed to guarantee our common future.

The path we are taking now will be long and filled with challenges. It also will be a path of renewed hopes, of challenging opportunities, that will lead us as we enter the 21st century—a new millennium—into the threshold of a new world in which the hopes and aspirations of all children of the earth for a safer and healthier world will be fulfilled. That new world is within our reach, but only if we assume in this conference the responsibilities bestowed upon us by the world community. You, gentlemen, have an unprecedented responsibility. [applause]

Maurice Strong Backs U.S. Position

PY0306125892 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 3 Jun 92

[Text] The secretary general of the Rio-92 Earth Summit has defended the U.S. position, adding that they are being unjustly criticized over the summit.

Diplomats have interpreted Maurice Strong's attitude as an effort to improve the U.S. situation. The United Nations fears that the tough position adopted by the United States will result in a clash between developed and developing nations, thus jeopardizing the success of the Earth Summit. The United Nations wants to avoid this.

The countries that do not sign the biodiversity convention now will have a 12-month deadline after the closure of the Rio 92 Earth Summit to do so. This was reported by UN Environment Director Mostafa Tolba, who added that there is a reasonable number of countries willing to endorse the biodiversity convention which has to be signed by 30 countries before it can be enforced.

Japan Reluctant To Sign Convention

OW0406022692 Tokyo KYODO in English 0209 GMT 4 Jun 92

[Text] Rio de Janeiro, June 3 KYODO—Japan is reluctant to sign a convention on biological diversity at the Earth Summit unless the issue of funding is resolved first, a Japanese Foreign Ministry spokesman said here Wednesday.

Sadaaki Numata, the ministry's deputy director general for public information, told reporters at Riocentro, the venue for the conference in Rio de Janeiro, that Japan is consulting with France and Britain over the wording of the convention.

The final text of the convention was agreed in Nairobi in May.

The convention aims to provide for the maximum conservation of the world's biological resources as well as allow countries to exploit such resources provided this is done on a sustainable basis.

Numata said Japan is concerned over the level of financial aid advanced countries would be asked to give to developing countries to allow them to implement the terms of the legally binding convention.

"In essence, our concern is that our position be safeguarded with respect to financing," Numata said.

The United States said last week that it will not sign the treaty because of objections about funding and concern over intellectual property rights and patent rights protection.

William Reilly, chairman of the U.S. delegation to the Earth Summit and administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, said the U.S. sees "no realistic prospect" for a last-minute revision of the treaty.

"Nairobi is a finished text and we cannot accept it," he said.

Earth Summit Chief Urges Japanese Initiative

OW0406034192 Tokyo KYODO in English 0315 GMT 4 Jun 92

[Text] Rio de Janeiro, June 3 KYODO—Earth Summit Secretary General Maurice Strong called on Japan on Wednesday to take the initiative, particularly in terms of funding, to ensure the success of the 12-day conference which opened in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, Wednesday.

Strong made the remarks in a meeting with former Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita, said Mitoji Yabunaka, Japan's counselor to the permanent mission to the UN in Geneva.

During a 40-minute meeting, Strong told Takeshita that the settlement of funding for preservation of the global environment is the key to the success of the Earth Summit, officially called the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Yabunaka told reporters.

He quoted Strong as saying he is particularly counting on Japan, and a show of the leadership by Japan is crucial for a successful conference.

Strong said he realized that a lengthy political process was required for Japan to make policy decisions, but added that he felt Japan would act decisively once it was resolved to do so.

Takeshita, who arrived in Rio de Janeiro earlier in the day to attend the meeting, replied that Japan will take a leadership role in the long term but that it is difficult to see what form of financing Japan can contribute.

Yabunaka said Strong described Japan as an "ally" and asked the country to join in a "planet-based partnership" to ensure a clean environment for the Earth.

In a separate meeting with Brazilian President Fernando Collor de Mello, Takeshita said a decision of the Export-Import Bank of Japan to provide loans worth 300 million dollars to Brazil is well-timed.

Collor expressed thanks for the decision, saying the loans symbolize the closer relations between the two countries, and called for Japan's cooperation in the future, Japanese officials said.

The bank on Tuesday announced the loans, which include 50 million dollars for measures to combat industrial pollution.

Goldemberg Criticizes Biodiversity Treaty

PY0306160492 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 2 Jun 92 Environment Section p 1

[By Martha San Juan Franca]

[Text] Rio de Janeiro—Education Minister and Environment Secretary Jose Goldemberg yesterday—after the Science and Culture Forum opening ceremony, one of the events that will run paralel to the UN Conference on Environment and Development (Rio-92)—has said that the Convention on Biodiversity that was signed in Nairobi two weeks ago was not negotiated well. Goldemberg said that the document that will attempt to protect this planet's animals, plants, and microorganisms that was signed by 90 countries, does not include the most interested parties. He said: "An international convention that is not signed by the United States, France, and Japan—countries that have the resources and consume the products that affect biodiversity—is useless."

Goldemberg added that the decisions at Nairobi were largely made by small countries which adopted a rhetorical position of unrestricted protection of their resources. "Brazil should not encourage rhetorical speeches by countries that do not effectively control the world," the minister said, referring to the U.S. Government's decision not to ratify the Biodiversity Convention at the Rio-92 conference because the document does not protect patents on new products and technologies transferred to developing countries.

UNESCO Environment Assistant Director Giesbert Glaser said he was present during five of the seven meetings where the document on the Convention on Biodiversity was drafted. Glaser said the issue was complex and needs additional technical analysis but "it will not be the end of the world if some countries do not sign the agreement." Physician Enio Candotti, president of the Brazilian Society for the Advancement of Science (SBPC)—one of the entities responsible for the Science and Culture Forum—criticized Goldemberg saying that "the minister's attitude is hasty."

In Candotti's opinion, the United States places its commercial interests before that of other countries which possess large biodiversity laboratories, without viewing those laboratories from a historic perspective because the planet's ecological balance is much more important than short-term technological developments. "Poor countries can vote on agreements but cannot convert it into reality," the minister added.

Goldemberg considers the Convention on Climatic Changes that will be signed by all countries—including the United States—during the conference as a model. The document has been widely criticized for not including targets and deadlines restricting the consumption of the pollutants that are mainly responsible for the greenhouse effect. But the text of this document is more open and better considers everyone's interests, the minister said.

"Additional protocols will be signed when enough scientific evidence can be gathered on the issue, just as was done during discussions on the use of chlorofluorcarbons, which damage the ozone layer," Goldemberg said.

Goldemberg said he favors the inclusion of industrial property rights and patents protection—the two points on which rich and poor countries do not agree—in the

Convention on Biodiversity. The Nairobi agreement proposes that developed countries give technical and scientific assistance to countries that lack technological development. The agreement, however, does not guarantee property rights for products obtained through biotechnology.

The minister has been harshly criticized by Candotti. The SBPC president also criticized the draft bill on pharmaceutical patents that Congress is currently discussing. Candotti said that the bill is a step backwards and will not help the national industry.

Jose Goldemberg said that the plan to preserve forests around the world, which U.S. President George Bush announced yesterday, seeks to compensate for the U.S. decision not to sign the Convention on Biodiversity. He said this during his speech opening the Science and Culture Forum at the Rio de Janeiro Federal University (UFRJ). According to the plan, the resources to support the preservation and adequate use of the world's forests will be increased by $150 million.

Goldemberg said that the funds are not enough but the plan represents a step in the right direction. "If countries like England and Japan follow suit we can obtain considerable financing," Goldemberg said. The minister emphasized the financial needs involved in environmental preservation, mentioning that if the problem is to be properly faced, rich countries must transfer $1.3 billion per year to developing countries until the end of the century.

The minister reiterated that he favored the decision to maintain the financing for sustainable development under the responsibility of the Global Environment Facility (GEF). The fund was created last year and is administered jointly by the World Bank and two other UN agencies: the Environment Program (UNEP) and the Development Program (UNDP). The GEF will support projects that reduce the consumption of the pollutants that cause the greenhouse effect, projects on biodiversity protection, and other projects included in Rio-92 ecological agenda. The GEF has close to $1.3 billion for the financing of these projects.

Climate Change Document Modification Sought

PY0406123092 Montevideo Radio El Espectador Network in Spanish 1000 GMT 4 Jun 92

[Text] The Netherlands, Austria, and Switzerland have proposed that the Climate Change Agreement, which will be signed during the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro, should include deadlines for the reduction of the emission of carbon dioxide, according to a document that these countries have circulated among the conference members.

The three European countries are requesting support for this proposal. They have also added another five points to the Climate Change Agreement, which has had the sting taken out of it and has been drafted so concisely that it will be signed by U.S. President George Bush.

During the opening session of the Conference on Environment and Development, German Environment Minister Klaus Toepfer stated that the Rio de Janeiro summit must be the beginning of rapprochement between North and South and between humanity and nature in the same way as the Final Helsinki Document foresaw the end of the East-West division.

Israel Offers '10 Commandments' for Environment

TA0406102892 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 4 Jun 92 pp A1, A8

[ITIM-REUTER report]

[Text] Rio de Janeiro—Israel has suggested 10 commandments of environmental protection at the UN Earth Summit in Rio on Wednesday.

Uri Marinov, the director general of the Ecology and Environmental Protection Ministry, said in his address to the conference: "A long, long time ago, the Jewish nation received the 10 commandments on man's relations with his fellow man and man's relations with his creator. Today we would like to propose a series of principles, 10 commandments, on man's relations with the environment."

The 10 commandments Marinov offered are:

—We must respect the environment.

—We must change our behavior as individuals and nations to preserve Planet Earth in all its glory.

—We must take ecological considerations into account in any decisionmaking process.

—We must improve the quality of our environment.

—We must preserve all the resources beautifying our environment.

—We must use the recyclable resources our creator has given us.

—We must not pollute, disseminate waste, or destroy.

—We must study the environment, the wonders of nature, and the processes affecting it.

—We must rally to serve our environment.

—We must not forget that humanity is an inseparable part of the creation.

[Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English at 0400 GMT on 4 June adds: "At the conference, a Palestinian observer has attacked Israel. He charged Israel with water pollution and land expropriation in the territories. The Palestinian representative requested the right to speak after Uri Marinov."]

Ecuador Regrets U.S. Decision on Treaty

PA0406010492 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1130 GMT 2 Jun 92

[Text] The Ecuadoran Government, represented by Foreign Minister Diego Cordovez, regrets that some countries, among them the United States, will not sign the biodiversity treaty in Brazil. The treaty is one of the two central documents of the Earth Summit, scheduled to begin on 3 June.

[Begin Cordovez recording] We are going to defend the position we have adopted as a member of the Amazon Treaty. We support sustainable development. We deeply regret the news of 31 May and 1 June that the United States will not sign the biodiversity treaty. We have supported this agreement in the preparatory committee negotiations. We believe that without the signature of the United States and, some say, Japan, France, and perhaps Germany, this agreement will not give the desired results. We support the climate convention. Unfortunately this convention also will not yield the results it should because it must satisfy the interests, or requirements, of these countries. As I said, this is a long-term process; this conference will promote international awareness of the environment and development issues. The two go together and we, as a third world country, are going to insist on this tight link between development and the environment. We are willing to take all the necessary measures to protect the environment as long as this does not adversely affect our development programs. [end recording]

On President Rodrigo Borja Ceballos' decision not to attend the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, the foreign minister said:

[Begin Cordovez recording] President Borja spoke to President Collor on the morning of 1 June and explained that he will not be able to travel to Brazil for the summit because we are in the midst of an election and there are a number of important administrative matters that the president needs to attend to. [end recording]

NGO's Inaugurate Global Forum in Rio

PY0306033492 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1759 GMT 2 Jun 92

[By Edgar Hernandez]

[Excerpts] Rio de Janeiro, 2 Jun (EFE)—About 3,500 nongovernmental organizations (NGO's) today officially inaugurated the Global Forum, an event that is being held simultaneously with the Earth Summit. At the Global Forum, civilian society will discuss the world's ecological, social, and economic problems.

The inaugural ceremony was held at Flamengo Park in Rio de Janeiro. It was chaired by local government officials; Gro Harlem Brundtland, Norway's prime minister and environment and development commission president; and Canadian Maurice Strong, the conference's director general.

The Norwegian prime minister stressed that "today's children are those who can promote a better future and, therefore, it is necessary to give them the education they deserve so that they will be able to make decisions and take action to improve their lives."

Gro Harlem Brundtland said: "We have just one planet and this means we only have one more opportunity. Our time is running out." [passage omitted]

The Global Forum is being held at Flamengo Park, along a beach in Guanabara Bay, where thousands of people who are participating in the cultural activities and discussions on the earth's future are walking.

The ship owned by "Greenpeace," an organization formed by the world's most active and radical ecologists, is anchored at Guanabara Bay. [passage omitted]

Haiti

Further on Prime Minister-Designate Appointment

Bazin Profiled

FL0306160992 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1100 GMT 3 Jun 92

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] The next step after the designation of the consensus prime minister is the ratification by the parliament, which should take place this week. If the parliamentarians agree with the appointment of Mr. Bazin, the new prime minister will have the task of forming a government of protection of the general public in which members from the other political parties of the country will also participate. [passage omitted]

Marc L. Bazin, who has officially been designated a candidate for the post of prime minister, is currently one of the main political figures in Haiti. Ansyrose Resignac will profile the current leader of the Movement for the Establishment of Democracy in Haiti [MIDH].

[Begin Resignac recording] Marc Bazin, who was designated on 2 June as the new Haitian prime minister and is now awaiting parliamentary ratification, is the founder of the MIDH, a political party founded in 1986. Sixty years old, Marc Bazin is from the north and was born in Saint-Marc on 6 March 1932. He studied classics at the Petit Seminaire College Saint Martial and at the Lycee Alexandre Petion in Port-au-Prince. He did university work in Paris, France. He has a degree in law and a diploma in advanced studies. He did post-graduate work in Belgium and the United States where he attended classes on corporate finance.

As a professional, Marc Bazin had an outstanding career abroad, especially in Morocco and at the World Bank. The posts he occupied abroad were: technical counselor at the office of the minister of finance of Morocco in 1965, loan officer at the World Bank, and bank representative in the Ivory Coast.

Marc Bazin is the general manager of Fonds de Developpment Industriel, which he founded in 1980. He was appointed minister of finance in the government of Jean-Claude Duvalier in 1982. He spent four months in that post and was given the nickname of Mr. Clean when he left the post. In April 1986, Marc Bazin left his post at the World Bank to make his career in politics by founding the MIDH. In 1987, he was presidential candidate in the 29 November aborted elections. In 1988, he boycotted the elections held by General Henry Namphy. In 1990, he came in second in the 16 December ballot which was won by Father Jean-Bertrand Aristide.

After Aristide was ousted on 30 September 1991, Marc Bazin was mentioned along with Rene Theodore as one of the main political figures who could get a majority of votes in the search for a peaceful solution to the political crisis. When designated by the presidents of the two chambers as one of the reasonable choices to assume the post of consensus prime minister, his candidacy was rejected in favor of that of Rene Theodore.

On 2 June 1992, Marc Louis Bazin was officially designated to become the new Haitian prime minister within the scope of the Villa d'Accueil tripartite agreement.

The ratification of the prime minister by both chambers of the parliament should theoretically take place this week. [end recording]

Needs Aristide Approval

FL0306151992 Port-au-Prince Radio Tropic FM in Creole 1200 GMT 3 Jun 92

[Text] Centrist leader Marc Louis Bazin was officially designated on 2 June 1992 as candidate for the post of consensus prime minister. It was Provisional President Joseph Nerette in coordination with the two presidents of the parliament, Mr. Dejean Belizaire and Dr. Alexandre Medard, who made this choice for the consolidation of democracy and the protection of the general public, according to the official text of the Villa d'Accueil tripartite agreement.

The choice of Marc Bazin must be ratified by both chambers of the parliament, according to the same source. Marc Bazin, 60 years old, the leader of the Movement for the Establishment of Democracy in Haiti, was an unsuccessful candidate in the 16 December 1990 elections.

We will point out that in a letter sent to Provisional President Joseph Nerette on 1 June, Alexandre Medard said, quote: To be effective and lasting, any solution to the crisis must have the immediate effects of lifting the embargo and putting an end to the diplomatic isolation of Haiti. [no unquote as heard]

Medard asserted: I insist that the choice of a consensus prime minister must be approved by the president elected on 16 December 1990, Jean-Bertrand Aristide.

OAS Rejects Appointment

PA0306223092 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1926 GMT 3 Jun 92

[Text] Washington, 3 Jun (EFE)—The OAS rejected Marc Bazin's appointment as Haitian prime minister. The organization considered that action to be a "continuation of the coup d'etat."

In a communique issued on 3 June, Brazilian OAS Secretary General Joao Clemente Baena Soares recalled the resolution on the Haitian situation, which was approved by the American foreign ministers in Nassau, Bahamas.

The document also reaffirmed the organization's firm support for the Washington Protocol and stated that it was the only possible solution to the Haitian crisis.

On 2 June, the "de facto" Haitian government, in power since General Raul Cedras toppled constitutional President Jean-Bertrand Aristide on 30 September 1991, appointed Marc Bazin as candidate for prime minister.

At the meeting in Nassau, the American foreign ministers "repudiated" any intimidating maneuvers to stop the ratification of the protocol by groups benefiting from the rupture in the democratic system. The 3 June communique issued by Baena Soares in Washington supports this position.

The Washington Protocol stipulated that a prime minister acceptable to all parties would be appointed, that coupist Gen. Cedras would continue as Armed Forces commander but would not have any political power, and that Aristide would return to his post within a short period of time.

In the Bahamas, the foreign ministers also agreed "not to recognize any document" not based on the Washington Protocol. The protocol was signed by the rival parties with the backing of the OAS, and is, according to Baena Soares, "a truly Haitian solution" to the crisis that ensued with the toppling of President Aristide.

Baena Soares's communique also mentioned the 8 October 1991 OAS foreign ministers' resolution which states: "No government resulting from this illegal situation will be accepted and, consequently, no representative of such a government will be accepted."

The OAS is committed to the reinstatement to the Presidency of deposed President Aristide. To further this end, the organization initially recommended a commercial embargo against the Port-au-Prince authorities. The foreign ministers "strengthened and increased" this position in the Bahamas.

The American foreign ministers called upon OAS member countries to increase their cooperation and report embargo violations. They also indicated that these violations could be "published periodically." The OAS resolution also asked its member states to deny port facilities to any ship violating the embargo and to ensure that air transportation was not used to send merchandise to Haiti.

The continental organization stressed not renewing visas to Haitians who support the coupist regime and the need to freeze the country's resources in foreign countries. The organization emphasized, however, the need to increase and improve the shipment of humanitarian aid to Haiti and promised to "contribute to the social and economic recovery and development of Haiti," as well as to cooperate with the implementation of the Washington Protocol.

Belgian Priest Arrested in Cap-Haitien 2 Jun

FL0306195292 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1600 GMT 3 Jun 92

[Text] Arrests have been made in the ecclesiastical circles in our country. A Belgian priest, Father Marcel Bussels, was taken into custody on 2 June in his home near Cap-Haitien by the forces of order. Father Bussels, who is well-known for his commitment to the ousted president, was taken to the military general headquarters of Cap-Haitien.

The authorities reportedly arrested him for possessing a gun and anti-government leaflets favorable to Father Aristide, which were discovered in his home, according to unofficial sources.

Deputies To Investigate Camp-Perrin Disturbances

FL0306195392 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1100 GMT 3 Jun 92

[Excerpt] A delegation of nine deputies is scheduled to leave the capital 3 June to go to Camp-Perrin to verify the damages that were caused by some individuals who set the police station afire. This delegation is made up of Deputies Frantz Robert Monde, Laveaux Jean-Baptiste, Stephen Moise, Olipcial Regis, Emmanuel Reyme, Denis Saint-Fort, Joseph Benoit Laguerre, Antoinier Gabriel, and the Camp Perrin deputy.

We do not know how much time this delegation intends to spend at Camp-Perrin. On the night of 29 May, individuals fired numerous times at the Camp-Perrin police station before setting it alight. [passage omitted]

Nicaragua

Further on U.S. Congress' Suspension of Aid

Assembly Asked To Demand Aid

PA0306165192 Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 2 Jun 92 p 9

[Letter from President Violeta Barrios de Chamorro to National Assembly President Alfredo Cesar Aguirre in Managua on 1 June]

[Text] Managua, 1 June 1992
Engineer Alfredo Cesar Aguirre
National Assembly President
Mr. National Assembly President:

I refer to widely published reports on the obstacles that some members of the U.S. Congress are placing on the disbursement of U.S. aid to our country.

As the members of the National Assembly are aware, the Economic Stabilization Program promoted by the Nicaraguan Government since 3 March 1991, with support from the country's production and labor groups, has no room for delays in receiving promised financial aid. This is basically due to our country's low monetary reserves and the amount of funds that are necessary to carry out the plan to finance production and the public investment plan for 1992.

Any delay in the disbursement of U.S. aid to Nicaragua could have deplorable effects on the national economy, particularly for producers and workers, who represent the majority of our people.

Therefore, I ask the National Assembly to approve a categorical declaration of support for U.S. aid to Nicaragua and a request that the respective disbursements be sent without delay, and that a copy of the declaration be sent to the presidents of the Senate and House of Representatives of the U.S. Congress.

With greetings to you and the distinguished members of the National Assembly, I remain,

Cordially,
[Signed] Violeta Barrios de Chamorro
President of the Republic of Nicaragua
Public Relations Directorate
Official Voice of the Presidency

UNO Issues Statement

PA0406001292 Managua Radio Catolica in Spanish 1100 GMT 3 Jun 92

[Statement issued by the National Opposition Union, UNO, in Managua on 2 June]

[Text] The parties of the National Opposition Union [UNO] that won the February 1990 elections address the Nicaraguan people and international public to give their position on foreign aid.

1. The Nicaraguan people are deserving of every bit of foreign aid that eases the economic crisis, as this aid complements internal efforts toward national development.

2. The executive branch is responsible for handling foreign assets in a proper and honest manner and channeling them to the intended recipients, such as production and social needs.

3. The executive branch must keep the commitments it has made to avoid any withholding of foreign aid by explaining to the Nicaraguan people in a clear and detailed manner the use and destination of those resources.

4. We reiterate that foreign aid is necessary for the country's economic and social development and demand that the executive branch fulfill its responsibility by rejecting improper use of these funds, thus ensuring disbursement of withheld funds.

[Signed] Conservative Popular Alliance, Independent Liberal Party, National Action Party, Communist Party of Nicaragua, Liberal Constitutionalist Party, Conservative National Action, Social Democratic Party, National Conservative Party, Nicaraguan Democratic Movement, Neo-Liberal Party, National Democratic Confidence Party, and Popular Social Christian Party.

[Issued] Managua, 2 June 1992

PRN Issues Communique

PA0306155092 Managua Radio Catolica in Spanish 1100 GMT 2 Jun 92

[Communique issued by the Nicaraguan Resistance Party, PRN, in Managua; date not given]

[Text] The Nicaraguan Resistance Party [PRN] is deeply concerned over the suspension of U.S. aid the government headed by President Violeta Chamorro had been receiving.

1. The PRN is greatly concerned because the government received over $500 million in aid, but targeted only a minimum amount to the Nicaraguan Resistance [RN]. If the government had targeted approximately $16 million, the situation of the demobilized involved in the reintegration and national reconciliation process would be improved.

2. The PRN believes the government is responsible for the aid suspension because the main commitments and changes needed to attain the democratization of our country have been affected by a lack of clearly defined policies.

3. We hope that, once the aid is unfrozen, the needs of the RN will be taken into account because, as everyone knows, its situation is precarious and chaotic.

4. The PRN appeals to the goodwill of our president to clarify objectively the factors that are preventing the restoration of the suspended aid.

[Signed] PRN President Luis Angel Lopez.

Helms' Veto Viewed

PA0306174092 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 2 Jun 92 p 3

[Editorial: "Not To Yield Before Pressure"]

[Text] Senator Jesse Helms, virtually the oldest member of Washington's ultraright, has vetoed at the U.S. Congress the disbursement of $100 million in assistance for Nicaragua. The reasons argued by Helms in his last-minute attack appear more of an old tradition of resorting to the use of force to subdue a sovereign country, than an alleged concern over how the funds of U.S. taxpayers are being used.

Helms simply does not understand, nor will he want to listen, because he does not give a damn about the disastrous effect of the prolongation of the suspension of aid on the Nicaraguan economy. His obsession, like that of his alter ego Alfredo Cesar, is to see Nicaragua kneel down before the United States, so our policies are dictated from Washington and not Managua.

In view of this behavior marked by political irrationality, the Nicaraguan Government cannot and it must not yield to blackmail. On the contrary, it is the time to honor the statements by top executive officials, who have said that the government's policy is not tied to political commitments or pressure from foreign governments.

Any hesitation in this test of strength will establish an ominous precedent for national stability, because we would be accepting that our economic dependence on foreign cooperation would turn into political dependence. In other words, the resumption of aid cannot be subjected to increasing the political vulnerability of the country.

Meanwhile, it is not true that Senator Helms represents the majority at the U.S. Congress. The fact that Cesar has had to resort to a representative of the ultra-conservative forces and is unable to present a report by a majority of congressmen against the aid to deal his umpteenth blow against the government, does not represent strength, but rather a sign of weakness. President Chamorro has the prestige and authority to appeal to other sectors of the U.S. Congress and administration to neutralize the boycott by Helms. Even more important than what the government can do in Washington is the degree of domestic unity and consensus the national leadership can project at this juncture. Regardless of their political differences, a national commitment of all political, business, and trade unions of the country on the nonpoliticalization of foreign aid is necessary.

On 1 June, the executive returned this issue to the National Assembly by demanding a declaration of support because of the suspension of the aid. It is immoral to engage in party politics at the expense of foreign cooperation, but silence and tolerance before betrayal also represent acts of complicity.

While the economists speculate on how long the country reserves will last before running the risk of failing to meet national and international commitments, no one can stay out of this battle to achieve the restoration of the aid.

Assembly President Cited

PA0406032392 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1853 GMT 3 Jun 92

[Text] Alfredo Cesar, president of the National Assembly, denied all responsibility for the temporary suspension of U.S. aid to Nicaragua. He attributed the suspension to what he described as executive branch irresponsibility in handling disbursements. He also said that foreign aid money ended up in enterprises linked to the FSLN [Sandinist National Liberation Front]. He did not present any proof for these remarks, however. In an improvised news conference, Cesar said in a low voice that he fully backed government efforts to secure financial aid.

[Begin recording] [Cesar] I have said a number of times that I fully support any efforts to secure foreign aid for Nicaragua. The media, however, do not print or air this remark. I firmly advocate aid for the Nicaraguan people. I have also said that I have been concerned about the handling of these funds. I have said enough about this matter already. I have warned the government that the way these funds have been handled could cause the country trouble. I have been saying this for months. Now we are observing an interesting political game. All this shows the executive branch's great weakness.

I warned of trouble because I was informed of what lay ahead through visits to Nicaragua, letters, and conversations with U.S. Congress leaders in Washington. But the government's initial reaction was to deny the existence of problems and affirm that the aid had been secured. As soon as it was announced that the aid had been suspended, the government reacted by blaming the National Assembly president. Give me a break. This means that the executive branch is not responsible for its own actions. Can the executive branch not guarantee aid for the Nicaraguan people or prevent these suspensions? As the UNO [National Opposition Union] communique stated—a communique I back completely—the organization and I advocate aid for the Nicaraguan people. At the same time, however, the way the aid is handled is the executive branch's sole responsibility. That responsibility should not be foisted onto someone else. To me, all this shows the executive branch's total weakness and inability to guarantee what it should.

[Reporter] [Words indistinct]

[Cesar] I have said that part of the aid—we still do not know how much because we are waiting for state banks to report—has been used for purposes other than those intended for it and this make things difficult. I said that

part of the aid has been diverted to political parties—I mean organizations, specifically the FSLN. This leads me to reiterate what I have said many times. The aid should be channeled to production and to meet the Nicaraguan people's needs.

[Reporter] [Words indistinct]

[Cesar] Production. It is of little or no importance what political party the producer belongs to, provided he keeps producing for the country's good. The aid must not be diverted to any other purpose or organization. Naturally, I cannot give any more details because we are in the process of ascertaining the names of other organizations that received U.S. aid in 1991, all of which caused the problems that we are now trying to solve.

[Reporter] The situation still is not clear.

[Cesar] I have documented several cases, enough to enable me to say what I did publicly. But I do not yet have a thorough report, I am waiting for it. Then I will be able to say how and what percentage of the aid went where. [end recording]

Peru

Colombian Envoy on Threats Against Embassy

PA0306210592 Santa Fe de Bogota Emisoras Caracol Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 3 Jun 92

[Telephone interview with Ambassador to Peru Jaime Gutierrez from Lima by unidentified station reporters—live]

[Excerpts] [Reporter] Colombian Ambassador to Peru Jaime Gutierrez claims he received numerous telephone calls in the past few hours threatening attacks, in the wake of the Colombian Government's decision to grant political asylum to former Peruvian President Alan Garcia, who entered our embassy at 1900 on 31 May. Mr. Ambassador, good morning. Have Peruvian authorities provided protection to the embassy yet?

[Gutierrez] No, sir. The residence is sometimes protected by the state. For example, when President Fujimori travels abroad, the embassies enjoy special protection. At this time, we only have a permanent guard who is paid by the embassy. On the evening of 1 June, when former President Alan Garcia was here, we had security forces; however, they were members of his personal security. Unfortunately, we have not yet received the security reinforcements we would like to have.

[Reporter] Did you receive threatening calls on 2 June or early on 3 June?

[Gutierrez] We received such calls on 1 June and on the morning of 2 June. We have received no more calls since then. [passage omitted]

[Reporter] Ambassador Gutierrez, how was the safe-conduct obtained? How did you and Foreign Minister Noemi Sanin manage to obtain his passport to leave the country in record time from the de facto government of President Alberto Fujimori?

[Gutierrez] This was handled at a very high level, at the Foreign Ministry level. This expedited the process in a very effective manner, as you pointed out. We contacted the Foreign Ministry here, but that was really the reason why matters were expedited.

[Reporter] Ambassador, how has the Peruvian Government, the Peruvian Foreign Ministry received the initial, extensive, and very harsh statements made on 2 June by former President Alan Garcia here in Bogota?

[Gutierrez] I have had no opportunity to have direct contact nor have I read or heard any information in that regard. We received very concise versions of his statements over the radio early on 2 June and over television in the evening of the same day. I really have had no opportunity to learn about the Foreign Ministry's reactions. Perhaps the press will report on this on 3 June. However, I do not believe they will issue an statement in this regard; I do not believe they will adopt a specific position.

[Reporter] How many people are working at our diplomatic delegation in Lima, Mr. Ambassador?

[Gutierrez] Our diplomatic delegation consists of the minister-adviser, secretary general, the commercial attache, and three secretaries. As you know well, the Proexpo [Export Promotion Fund] international offices closed in December 1990. We also have military attaches and their respective assistants and secretaries.

[Reporter] Has the Colombian Foreign Ministry been advised of the threatening calls?

[Gutierrez] Yes. On 2 June, I advised the Foreign Ministry. The person who came here, Dr. Clemencia Florencia, was here when we received some of those calls. We reported our concerns, and she can attest to the tension that was prevalent here.

Lima TV Interviews Party Representatives

PA0306152692 Lima Panamericana Television Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 2 Jun 92

[Interview with Mercedes Cabanillas, acting secretary general of the American Popular Revolutionary Alliance [APRA] party and Deputy Antero Flores, member of the Popular Christian Party's Political Commission by Roxana Canedo, place not given—live]

[Text] [Canedo] Good morning Mercedes Cabanillas, acting secretary general of the American Popular Revolutionary Alliance [APRA] party and welcome to the program. Has Alan Garcia already left the country?

[Cabanillas] He should be leaving any moment now. Roxana, with the permission of this program's producers, I want to take the opportunity to express my solidarity with Alan Garcia. Garcia, our current secretary general, is on the verge of departing for Colombia, where he has been granted political asylum.

[Canedo] Welcome, Antero Flores from the Popular Christian Party's [PPC] Political Commission.

[Flores] Thank you very much, Roxana.

[Canedo] On 1 June, President Fujimori gave a message to the nation in which he pointed out, among other things, that the government is not responsible for citizens who feel persecuted by their own conscience. This statement makes a clear reference to former President Alan Garcia. Who is persecuting him, why has he requested asylum, and why is he leaving?

[Cabanillas] This reference demonstrates the hate that Mr. Fujimori has always manifested toward the people's party [APRA], the party of [Victor] Haya de la Torre, and its leaders. This is in addition to a number of other incidents including threats, arrests, and raids such as the one on APRA party headquarters, that have been occurring since the beginning of the Fujimori coup d'etat. This makes reference to political persecution against APRA leaders, particularly against Alan Garcia and Augustin

Mantilla. This is a matter of concern because it does not say much of freedom, of citizens' political rights, or of the political parties' rights. The parties' rights should freely exist since there is now talk about holding elections. This is without taking into consideration the possible rules and conditions for such an election, the administration of the electoral process, and the composition of the electoral board after intervening in the judiciary and the attorney general's office. This intervention gives no guarantee of independence, autonomy, and respect for the results of that process. The process should mean that the Peruvians are not restricted and that they have no rights limitations....

[Canedo, interrupts] We have a last minute report. Former President Alan Garcia has been granted safe-conduct and should be departing for Colombia, but on a commercial flight. The report states that Jorge Del Castillo is making the arrangements so that he can leave on a commercial flight. The flight could be Alitalia, which goes to Colombia, because the Colombian Air Force plane is still at Air Terminal 8.

[Cabanillas] There were two alternatives. The one you just mentioned of the Colombian Air Force flight and a commercial flight that should be leaving a little after 0800 on 2 June.

[Canedo] Let us now discuss the speech delivered by the head of state, Engineer Alberto Fujimori. Elections for the Democratic Constituent Congress, CCD, have been called for 18 October. By the way, this will be the day of the Lord of Miracles procession. Coincidence? Maybe.

[Flores, laughing] You cannot expect coincidences from Eng. Fujimori.

[Canedo] Why would he convoke...

[Flores, interrupting] It is just another trial balloon, so that the people, the Church and other groups will start protesting, so that the brothers of the Lord of Miracles will protest, and thereby distract the people's attention. It is very clear.

[Canedo] Do you think so?

[Cabanillas] I see a lot of manipulation, strategy, and calculation by Mr. Fujimori. His 1 June speech was rhetorical. It was an incomplete message and lacked clarity. He was bold enough, and I stress this, to announce his plans for the period prior to 18 October. He said he will look for ways to conduct consultations on some points. There could be agreements on some points, such as deciding if the next parliament will be unicameral, the number of parliamentarians, and so forth. That is precisely the job of a constituent congress. A free, autonomous, sovereign congress can make decisions on this and many other topics. It can also decide if convoking presidential elections immediately is valid or not. It can even declare the presidency vacant because Mr. Fujimori violated the Constitution. There are unlimited possibilities. However, since Mr. Fujimori is afraid he will not have a majority in congress, he is trying to set guidelines to limit congressional actions. Based on those guidelines, the constituent congress will not be free and sovereign, but merely an appendage of the executive branch, represented by Fujimori as the de facto government.

[Canedo] Part of Fujimori's speech reads: Those who have worked full-time here or abroad to have sanctions applied and aid suspended have cared very little for the people of our country. They wanted the OAS to sanction Peru so that everything could be the same, so that there could be a return of the dismissed bicameral parliament. They argued that the parliament—that large, heavy, thick-skinned pachyderm that you know well—already had everything ready before 5 April to carry out a thorough reform. We want a full democracy, without moving backward. I am not going to retreat by reopening the old congress and I am not going to restore the old judicial branch, which is being reorganized. This is essential, and the fact the people agree with this is also essential. The Peruvians want a true democracy, and we will secure it. There should be no doubt about that.

What he meant is that he has the people's support. He added: They wanted the government to be punished for listening to the people. The fact is that those who promoted an antinational campaign to damage the project that the Peruvian government and people have been carrying out since 28 July 1990, have been neutralized. Fujimori does have the people's support.

[Cabanillas] There are two issues here: First, he accused those who attended the OAS meeting of promoting economic sanctions against Peru. A person who cannot hold a dialogue is a deaf person. Eng. Fujimori was in Nassau. I spoke on behalf of all the political parties, and I specifically said that we asked the ad hoc OAS foreign ministers meeting not to apply any economic sanctions against Peru. We requested it because that would have meant punishing the Peruvian people, who should not have to pay for the actions of the de facto head of state.

[Canedo] Some people have demanded those sanctions, though.

[Cabanillas] Political parties in general and I, representing the de jure government, said exactly the opposite. Each person is responsible for his own words. On behalf of all parties, without exception, I clearly stated a position that was coordinated with all Peruvian political forces.

Fujimori also said that the Congress was a pachyderm. I could also tell him that the executive branch is a tortoise. However, this has nothing to do with animals or types of animals! The truth is that ...

[Canedo] He said: large, heavy, and thick-skinned...

[Cabanillas] That is correct. However, a tortoise's skin is thicker and more wrinkled, and we know that they are normally found in the Galapagos Islands. The truth is

...[pauses] Fernando Vega Gadea, a very serious man; Economy Minister Bolona; and former Prime Minister Alfonso de los Heros, who has behaved in a very dignified manner throughout the process, can corroborate this. In March, political groups coordinated and even drafted legal procedures based on a consensus to issue the amendments that were necessary, according to the executive branch. This included the judicial branch and the National Council of Magistrates, which clearly shows that the de facto president of the Republic has been deceiving the opposition forces and his own ministers with a double-barreled gun.

[Canedo] Does the expression double-barreled gun refer to APRA?

[Cabanillas, laughing] Well, apparently they borrowed it, and besides, they voted for him.

Do not make the same mistake, Antero. The truth is that there is a lack of self-criticism in Fujimori's message because if we have to talk about oversized, obsolete, and corrupt institutions, we have to talk about the executive branch, which takes first place. Do not forget that the central government has a budget of 6.5 billion sols. Congress had a budget of only 90 million sols. Public enterprises have a budget of 6.8 billion sols and financial corporations have a budget of 2.5 billion sols. With these figures alone we can demonstrate where government resources and public finances are spent. It is not in Congress, it is in the executive branch, where all types of imperfections, irregularities and immoralities are observed.

[Canedo] We are going to pause here and analyze the message delivered by the president. He has convened a democratic constituent congress for 18 October. A referendum will then be held to decide on the reforms to the Constitution. The president said he will consult the people—the sovereign people as the president calls them—on important issues such as the kind of things they want reformed, as well as the magnitude and priority of reforms. This will make it more democratic for the people, whose needs have been permanently postponed. We are going to take a look at this issue first and we are also going to talk about the municipal and regional elections scheduled for 8 November. We have a short time and resources are scarce. To what extent is this possible and to what extent is the democratic constituent congress really going to be democratic and autonomous?

[Flores] Available resources are scarce, but the government takes $1 million for this dialogue, which is not really a dialogue, so that anyone who signs up to have his name published in the newspaper EL PERUANO can do so. Resources are scarce, but the government issues a resolution, such as the one published in EL PERUANO on 31 May or 1 June, authorizing payment for expenses incurred by a Mr. (Chiura) and a Mr. Santolaya, who went to a meeting in Washington just to warm up some seats.

[Canedo] They never participated, they never spoke?

[Flores] Not at all. I saw them. They only clapped their hands at whoever spoke because they did not understand what was being said. They clapped the nays and the yeas. It was Peru's most expensive applause.

[Canedo] We regret very much that Dr. Miguel Vega Alvear from United Left [as heard] did not go there.

[Cabanillas] If you would allow me, I would like to complete the answer to your question. It is very important. It is true, the people want important reforms....

[Canedo, interrupting] The people's support is important.

[Cabanillas] Listen, the people support and demand reforms. People want innovations and reorganization aimed at giving public institutions supporting democracy the necessary means to be more efficient. We are talking about the judicial branch, the legislative branch, and all the organizations in the country. That does not mean that they are fond of Mr. Fujimori as a person. It is quite the opposite. Mr. Fujimori is riding the wave of changes, which the people are demanding. We have to be honest. Our democracy has its imperfections. We have to correct them so they can efficiently respond to the people's demands. These are fundamental demands such as jobs, health, food, and basic services. This government, two months old on 2 June [as heard], has not resolved these problems as the president promised when he complained about nonexistent obstructions. I would say things are worse off than they were before because now we have to add the problems resulting from a lack of democracy, with all its imperfections. We are now lacking a democratic system that can properly put us in the international and political world. That is our situation.

[Canedo] President Fujimori also referred to the fact that the OAS did not apply sanctions and that he does not expect them to. He pointed out that he is carrying out what he promised in the Bahamas. In any case, he believes the Peruvian people must express their views throughout the process. In addition, in several instances of his message, he stressed it is the people's opinion that really counts. The people's opinion is the dominant force in every democratic process. In short, he stated that many times there has been talk about guarantees regarding a process that will lead to a Magna Carta. The guarantors are precisely the people. What more guarantee can be demanded...

[Flores, interrupting] Roxana...

[Canedo, interrupting] Therefore, what will be the role of the CCD?

[Flores] The constituent council...

[Canedo, interrupting] With 80...

[Flores, interrupting] The CCD can be democratic, but it can also be mere demagogy. We do not know what this is all going to mean.

[Canedo] What does it all depend on?

[Flores] That is really it. In good measure, it all depends on the people not allowing anyone to take advantage of them, because they have been manipulated. Why is this? Because the people are being asked questions such as: Do you want a corrupt judicial system? For goodness sake, I would be the first one to answer that I do not want such a system. In no way does this mean that I support Fujimori. Another question: Do you want a sluggish congress? I am the first one to answer that I want an active congress. I have said it before on this same station. I am a victim of the same sluggish system, and I do not want it. It does not mean that I support Fujimori. Do you want corruption to continue in Peru? Please, we are the first to answer that we do not, but we are going to fight corruption in a democratic context, not in an arbitrary system.

[Canedo] A television viewer has called to ask if you realize that you also lack the same credibility, and that most of what you say is not true?

[Flores] Roxana, at this time, no one has any credibility.

[Cabanillas] In any case, there is an institutional crisis that not only affects congress, the executive branch, the judicial system...

[Canedo, interrupting] The political parties?

[Cabanillas] Even the political parties can have their own degree of crisis. At any rate, that cannot be used by Fujimori, or better yet, manipulated by Fujimori to fool the people. The absolute representative of the people is precisely the man with the authority to implement corrective mechanisms. I would rightly say that he has no authority because, not even on the political party issues, is he entitled to give any lessons. He has mistreated his own party. He has turned his back on his own political party. On the democracy issue, he has never sweated one drop to defend democracy in Peru. On the ethics issue, he ordered the investigations to be filed away on the donations dealings. On the income tax declaration issue, Mr. Fujimori, with all his informally established companies [empresas informales] and real estate companies, has never paid taxes. Therefore, we could continue analyzing how Mr. Fujimori's standing was in crisis from the moment he decided to represent a de facto government. What the people really want is to express themselves through electoral decisions where secret, direct, and universal votes will be respected. This will pave the way for the reestablishment of a sovereign constituent congress where all these reforms can be reintroduced.

[Canedo] Those who participate in the CCD will not be allowed to participate in the next two congresses. What does this mean?

[Flores] That will depend on what the constituent congress establishes.

[Canedo] The head of state has already said it.

[Flores] Please, come on now. A constituent congress is more than the de facto head of state. The constituent congress is the sovereign power, and more so if the constitutional amendments are submitted to a referendum. But Roxana, the real issue....

[Canedo, interrupting] Just a minute please. What would happen if congress approves some amendments and these amendments are not supported by the people during the referendum?

[Flores] If they are not supported by the people, then corrections will have to be made, and other amendments will have to be made. In the end, the final decision belongs to the people. The current congressmen who decide to participate in the constituent congress; or former congressmen, according to this television channel [laughs], are representatives of the people.

[Canedo] Parliamentary members [words indistinct] de facto government.

[Flores] That is right. They are the people's representatives and, as such, they have an obligation to the people who voted for them. However, let us talk about positive things, Roxana.

[Canedo] Yes, please.

[Flores] What is the difference between the executive branch and the democratic opposition groups? What does the executive branch want or, at least, what does it presumably want? To end corruption? So do we. To end drug trafficking? So do we. To end terrorist subversion? So do we. To look for a way to improve living conditions? So do we. To overcome the economic crisis, recession, and inflation? So do we. What differentiates us? The government believes these goals can be achieved in a dictatorial system. We believe they can be achieved in a democratic system. What has the dictatorship achieved? Has it improved the struggle against drug trafficking? It has not improved; it has worsened. Has the struggle against terrorism improved? It has worsened; terrorism has increased. Do we have more money in our pockets on payday? Quite the contrary, we have less. Has the standard of living gone up? No, the only things that have gone up are prices. The dictatorial system does not guarantee order at all, but order can be guaranteed by democracy. There may be a better system, but no one has invented it. Therefore, we must all unite and reconstruct the country's democratic institutions through dialogue rather than by imposition. Eng. Fujimori must remember the OAS. He did not come out of the OAS with a fanfare. He did not come out of the OAS carrying the bull's ears, tail, and hooves. No. He came out followed by a resolution which urges him to restore the authorities and democracy in Peru. Thus, the OAS clearly and unequivocally condemns him. It also sent a mission to sponsor a dialogue. The mission has not sponsored anything; it has actually been a council of listeners because it listened to what the two sides had to say.

[Canedo] Yes.

[Flores] What we need is to overcome the stalemate through dialogue, Roxana. We must look toward the future.

[Canedo] The president has said the dialogue is unavoidable.

[Flores] But he does nothing about it.

[Canedo] He said the dialogue will be a conversation between the president of the council of ministers and accredited political party spokesmen.

[Flores] But, Roxana...

[Cabanillas, interrupting] Fujimori did not say this. The OAS resolution said this several times. The first and second resolutions said this. Point six...

[Canedo, interrupting] The political parties must participate in a dialogue with the president of the council of ministers.

[Cabanillas] The political parties have issued a joint statement saying they are willing to participate in a dialogue and seek a solution that will even prove beneficial for the country in economic terms.

[Canedo] Yes.

[Cabanillas] Roxana, do not forget the resolution states that Mr. Fujimori's statement has been heard. He is urged to restore democracy through the proper channels.

[Canedo] Former President Alan Garcia should be arriving any minute at the 8th Air Group's facilities with Colombian Ambassador Jaime Gutierrez, he is under strict security. He will apparently be followed by APRA parliamentary members and, according to the information, several independent members, including Edgar Teran. Mrs. Pilar Nores de Garcia remains in Peru with her children. My question is: Dr. Jorge del Castillo reserved three seats through Alitalia. Who will use the tickets now that Dr. Garcia is flying to Colombia aboard a Colombian Air Force airplane?

[Cabanillas] I said there were two alternatives. Either that one or a commercial flight. About Mrs. Garcia, I understand she will finish some family business, which is natural, including the children's college, etc. She will then do the proper thing. Roxana, there is something important about this. I think the people did not get a coherent answer from politicians' speeches or from institutions like the parliament.

[Canedo] This is evident in the people's questions.

[Cabanillas] That is right.

[Canedo] The people criticize the politicians.

[Cabanillas] That is right. There is expectation...

[Canedo, interrupting] The people question the role of the politicians. They want to know why they did not work with the same unity and comradeship before 5 April. Perhaps then we would now defend you, or believe in you a little bit.

[Cabanillas] [laughs] I want to state the following, and I will say it because I have the authority. I was the congressional member who got the highest number of votes and, above all, because I have decided I will not run for congress—or any other congressional post—again. I have already notified my party. Therefore, I have the necessary independence to give my views on this issue. I want to say the congress was obviously involved, or undermined, by certain economic measures the Fujimori administration began to implement. For the people, this meant constant unemployment, lower salaries, lack of [one-minute break in reception] the country's economic policy and resources. Therefore, it is necessary to establish the difference.

I want to mention something Mr. Fujimori failed to mention in his speech, meaning supervision. He talked about constitutional authority and the way congress will implement the amendments the current constitution needs. Congressional authority will prevail as long as it does not interfere with the guidelines of the policy implemented by the government. This involves a limitation. What about supervision? Who will supervise, and who is supervising, the executive branch's actions? For example, listeners can review EL PERUANO and they will see a resolution was issued three days ago authorizing public works exceeding $1 million without following the necessary procedure, meaning the announcement of a bid. This violates the norms established in different administrations and it violates our budget laws. We cannot see how things may improve and the Peruvian people are desperate because their expectations are frustrated by a dictatorial regime where authority is monopolized, where there is no supervision, where the state branches are not properly divided, and where there is no democratic participation. I insist. Things will not improve. Instead, they will tend to worsen.

[Canedo] Let us not be so negative. Well, the CCD has been called even though the duration and the mechanisms to elect its members have not been specified. Will the Popular Christian Party participate? Otherwise, there would be an immense void. If all the parties say they will not participate, who will participate? Will the APRA Party of Peru participate?

[Flores] Roxana, I am the secretary general of my party but, regardless of my high post, I cannot adopt a decision. The decision must be adopted by the National Executive Council or the Political Committee. Personally speaking, personally speaking, I think we should participate after a dialogue to find the appropriate formulas to comprise a constituent congress. What did Engineer Fujimori say on 1 June?

[Canedo] Here is a question along those same lines: Why demand democracy when there is no democracy within the parties? In addition, many party members who have a public post are worse dictators than Pinochet, himself. What democracy are you talking about? Are you perhaps in the wrong party? Have you joined the wrong party?

[Flores] No. Look, proof of this—meaning this is not a dictatorial issue—is what I tell you: The appropriate party officials, including the National Committee, must be consulted.

[Canedo] Not only Dr. Bedoya?

[Flores] Please! The National Political Committee is formed by approximately 20 persons and the National Executive Committee is formed by at least 60 persons. Consequently, I am talking about party organizations. I am not adopting a decision on behalf of my party. This would be a dictatorial action. I say we must consult the appropriate officials. This proves there is a democracy and it proves organized authorities must adopt the decision.

[Cabanillas] Let me answer so there are no doubts.

[Flores] Excuse me, but I have not finished.

[Canedo] Please be brief.

[Flores] Engineer Fujimori only mentioned three things. One, he announced a date, 18 October. Two, those elected to the constituent congress cannot participate in another congress. Three, it will have 80 members. No more!

[Canedo] The referendum will be held later. Then there will be municipal and national elections.

[Flores] Yes, but I am talking about the constituent congress elections. There is no mention about lists, independent candidates, how many signatures will be needed to register a party, how the percentages will be calculated, how districts will be distributed, etc. Many things are still pending and they should be reviewed in a dialogue with the political parties. Engineer Fujimori says he wants democracy in the country, but he must prove this. Therefore, he must meet with the opposition, according to point six of the OAS resolution, and reach an agreement on the mechanisms to render viable and make possible the constituent congress—instead of imposing it.

[Canedo] Be brief please.

[Cabanillas] Yes. Regarding my party, Roxana, it practices the highest form of democracy and participation mechanisms, in line with party statutes. I can say that at a suitable moment, following the evaluation of how political events are evolving, we will issue a statement on our position on the constituent congress and announcing if we will participate. This will be true in the event that conditions for participation are very clear, democratic, free, and autonomous.

We are obviously concerned with the fact that specific steps leading to the constituent congress have not been announced. This, perhaps, has not been done so these measures will not be subjected to discussion. This would be most adequate and I agree on this with the majority of the political spokesmen who have stated their position.

This issue cannot be viewed as a concession or as a favor from the dictator. It is necessary that the political forces, as well as the country's fundamental institutions with no political party, state their points of view on electoral norms and on the management and administration of an electoral process.

[Canedo] That will be done in a referendum. Is that not right?

[Cabanillas] No, no. This is an issue for discussion: What are the electoral laws? What will be the election mechanisms? Will there be a single national district, a regional district, or local districts, as it has been said here. All this must be discussed through a democratic dialogue, not through a bureaucratic institution headed by Minister de la Puente with 3,000 or 4,000 registered people who are not part of any system or organization. This may confuse the people and turn us into victims of an arbitrary decision on the elections issue. For this reason, I think a dialogue among representative institutions to establish clear rules is necessary. As guarantees, liberties, autonomous rules, as well as autonomous and independent electoral officials appear, we can state our position, but we are still watching and evaluating events. We will announce our position at a suitable moment.

[Canedo] President Fujimori has called for a dialogue with the president of the Council of Ministers. Will you participate in that dialogue? Just tell me yes or no, please.

[Flores] Of course, we have to participate.

[Cabanillas] This is what we are demanding.

[Flores] This is precisely what we are demanding. This is the democratic thing to do. The dialogue has to happen. Of course, if the dialogue is to be with Fujimori, Dr. Bedoya, our party president will participate in the dialogue. If the dialogue is to be with the janitor of Change 90, then the janitor of the Popular Christian Party will go to the dialogue. Our participation will be at the level of he who conducts the dialogue.

[Canedo] Judging from the questions by our audience, the political parties have to get closer to the people. Is this true?

[Cabanillas] I think that all the political parties have made efforts, not only to become more modern in their ideological and strategic frameworks, but also to give maximum participation to their cadres. Proof of this is the APRA statutes. On one occasion, I said it appears that in the raid against the People's House, the raiders

removed the party's statutes and Mr. Fujimori has read them. These statutes guarantee the norms of broad democracy that rule APRA.

[Canedo] We have to close, otherwise we are going to be taken out of here.

[Flores] With pleasure.

[Canedo] I will not be the one taking you out. I will be taken out also. [laughter]

[Flores] Many people are attacking the political parties and saying they have to be reformed. I am proposing a dialogue. I invite those who attack the parties saying they must be reformed, to oppose the parties or to create new parties. They can do that. No one is preventing them from doing that. The thing is to participate. It is easy to watch from a safe place and not do a thing for the country, to leave open spaces, and to permit situations like those that existed at the congress where, with the honorable exception of Change 90 people, other parliamentarians did nothing but warm their benches. Let us hope this will not happen at the constituent congress.

[Canedo] This will depend on your participation.

[Flores] And on the people, Roxana. The political parties are being blamed for everything, but the deputies were sent to Congress by the people. I want to say that not all congressmen are indolent. There are honorable and hard-working people at Congress. We have to ask the people not to make mistakes and next time elect a president with a democratic, not a totalitarian, vocation.

[Canedo] Thank you.

[Cabanillas] Thank you.

[Flores] I thank all of you, especially Roxana for this kind invitation.

Venezuela

Unknown Persons Infiltrate Student Protests

PA0406021492 Caracas Venezolana de Television Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 4 Jun 92

[Report by Ricardo Matheus]

[Text] Unidentified persons were again able to infiltrate groups of university students and convince them to attack police units with rocks and incendiary bombs during street protests that took place near the Andres Bello High Scool on Varal Avenue, the Pedro Emilio (Kohl) High Schoool in El Valle, the Caracas Pedagogic School, and in the Guarenas area.

Police units were constantly on guard to prevent the students from reaching cars traveling through the area as the student protests were taking place. The infiltrators were again able to convince some students to throw rocks and incendiary bombs at police units standing near by.

Violence broke out near University Avenue when student protesters attempted to reach the Caracas Hilton. Riot police, who were stationed near the area ready to prevent any attacks against local businesses or parked cars, were forced to chase the students with their motorcycles and to shoot bird shot. This forced the student protesters to disperse. Some students were arrested.

Metropolitan Police Commander General Jesus Rafael Caballero stated that even though several policemen and students were injured during recent student protests, he had ordered his men to prevent violence and restrain themselves from using unnecessary force.

[Begin Caballero recording] We are committed in that our conduct will conform strictly to due process. When we go into action it will be because we have been forced by circumstances to protect the lives and property of innocent bystanders. [end recording]

Education Minister Pedro Augusto Beauperthuy met with Attorney General Ramon Escobar Salom to discuss several issues, especially those related to activities being carried out by persons who are infiltrating educational institutions throughout Venezuela. Minister Beauperthuy believes that students are being deceived by adults aimed at promoting subversives acts. These students are slowly being drawn into situations that could eventually result in their losing their academic year.

[Begin Beauperthuy recording] We must carefully analyze what is taking place at every level. Where is this leading to? A valuable human life has already been lost. A student has been killed, other students wounded, policemen are injured. What has it all been for? [end recording]

The District Attorney's Office announced on 3 June that several special district attorneys have been appointed by the Office of the Attorney General to investigate who fired on the students who were injured during the 2 June protest.

Minister Urges Halt to Protests

PA0406025992 Caracas Venezolana de Television Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 4 Jun 92

[Text] In light of the disturbances that have been taking place in the country, Education Minister Pedro Augusto Beauperthuy called on the Venezuelan student community to jointly and voluntarily avoid losing the school year, as there is no possibility of extending it further.

The minister also reiterated that classes have not been suspended.

[Begin Beauperthuy recording] It is our duty to remind you that, due to earlier public altercations of a different kind, several days of class were lost in the early months of the year and that the schedule for primary schools, high schools, and universities has already been extended until 31 July.

It is not possible to make further modifications without affecting the normal operation of this or the next school year.

I hereby call on all the people, especially parents and sponsors, to realize the terrible consequences that the loss of a school year would have on the efforts made by Venezuelan families and the government to educate our children. Think about what a year without classes would represent for our country's future. [end recording]

Official Says Situation 'Normal'

PA0406044592 Caracas Venezolana de Television Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 4 Jun 92

[Text] At Congress, journalists questioned Deputy Interior Affairs Minister Edmundo Egui Luna about the situation in the country. According to Deputy Minister Egui Luna, the situation is beginning to stabilize. He said the violent disturbances staged by students in different cities have produced only injured persons. But he stated that the situation has improved.

[Begin Egui Luna recording] The general situation in the country is normal and we have it in hand. Evidently the most serious disturbances took place on 2 June during activities staged by small groups. The situation has been much calmer on 3 June. The situation in the country is normal and under control. [end recording]

The deputy minister spoke before the Chamber of Deputies Youth Affairs, Tourism, and Recreation Commission about youths killed during criminal activities. He discussed the difference between those who are innocent victims and those who display deviant conduct. About the latter he admitted that, unfortunately, at this time there are no rehabilitation centers for these youths, which is a serious problem.

According to Egui Luna, the Interior Affairs Ministry will take all necessary steps to restore security and public order.

Labor Minister on Reinstatement of Workers

PA0406150492 Caracas Venezolana de Television Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 4 Jun 92

[Text] Labor Minister Ruben Rodriguez has announced the reinstatement of IVIC [Venezuelan Institute of Scientific Research] workers who had been recently fired.

Appearing before the Commission on Social Matters of the Chamber of Deputies to report on the labor situation in the country, Labor Minister Ruben Rodriguez said that the Labor Inspector's Office ruled in favor of the IVIC workers. Regarding the wave of strikes, he said these are limited to the public sector and, in the case of the public employees, there is still one week left in the waiting period agreed upon with the FEDE-UNEP [Public Employees National Unitarian Federation]. It is expected that the demands presented by the workers will be satisfied, within the executive branch's budget limitations.

The minister also discussed the strike threats in the oil industry; the threats have been made by union leaders who were recently dismissed.

[Begin Rodriguez recording] That possibility has not been considered. I spoke with the affected workers' union leaders and with representatives of Fedepetrol [Petroleum Workers Federation] and all the oil unions, and we agreed that I would personally follow up on the case. We agreed that I would do everything I possibly could to find a satisfactory solution for all, one that would not imply a deterioration in present conditions or affect union privileges, while guaranteeing peace in the labor sector throughout the oil producing region. [end recording]

Regarding the merchant marines, Minister Ruben Rodriguez said that a solution is forthcoming, as the regulations that govern work at sea are being examined.